

The New York-Harlem Edition Worker

Registered as second class matter Oct. 23, 1947, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879

Vol. XXI, No. 23
(16 Pages)

December 23, 1956
Price 10 Cents

A Merry Christmas

TO OUR READERS and partners in our publishing enterprise, the heartiest of holiday greetings!

Our joint efforts have pulled us through another rough year, the 33rd since the Daily Worker was founded (as of the coming January 13th), and the 20th since we launched the weekly Worker.

The path of workingclass papers devoted to socialism has never been smooth in our country. Our Marxist movement has the proud distinction of having maintained a daily English-language newspaper far longer than any previous one in U. S. history. The Worker is rapidly approaching that distinction for socialist-oriented weeklies.

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WHY is it so tough to maintain such a paper? Why can it exist only through the self-sacrificing efforts and contributions of its body of readers (or, in the case of the trade union press, through an organization's treasury)?

The folding of Collier's and Woman's Home Companion announced last weekend, provides a clue. Here are two publications with millions of readers. They could not make a go of it because advertising fell off. The average newspaper in this

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CP Endorses Our Sub Drive

—See page 5

Reporter Looks for and Finds Xmas Spirit

By LESTER RODNEY

THE IDEA WAS to put on the reportorial walking shoes and get some week-before-Christmas sentiments and outlook. As we started west along 14th Street, here seemed little Christmas bubble in the air. There were no sidewalk Santa Clauses or tinkling bells, no window displays, not much in the way of crowds carrying bundles. Ohrbachs has moved, there are bleak empty For Rent signs where Hearns once teemed this time of year and downtown a bit Wanamakers is no more. It is a bypassed shopping area. In a Woolworth store a sales person said "slower than last year."

Uptown in the 20's, a retail and wholesale outlet house reported that "everyone is crying around here." It seems the pinch of the steady move to the suburbs of both affluent customers and shopping areas is suddenly adding up. "We're busy, mind you," was the admonition. "It's not dead, but it's not the big thing it was." For small businesses, this has to be the period to make up for all the year's slack, and to do that it has to be not busy, but frantic, unbelievable.

Another small businessman got

into the conversation, agreed it was slow, but said he expected to be busy early January. "Money is tighter than it was," he said, "But after some of the Christmas bonuses I look for a

rush."

IN A WESTERN UNION office, I was informed that there was a sharp uptake in telegrams to out of town places in this last week. "You'd never realize how

many New Yorkers didn't come from New York but have family all over the country," I was told. I asked about the Christmas greeting forms, with suggested verses. Do most make up their

own, or use the forms?

"The forms," was the answer, "with some exceptions. You'd be surprised, just a while ago someone came in, he must have I don't know how much money, he just said send one of the nice poems."

I looked at the poems. They are no threat to Walt Whitman. Here is one: "When you gather round the Christmas tree, read this message and think of me. Love." The word "love" can be added to any form for only a few cents, you are advised.

Moving up Chelsea's West Side, I chatted with a few housewives coming out of stores with bundles. In the pleasant glow that seems to go with buying presents, they didn't seem to believe that a reporter just casually passing by was seriously interested in how things were going for them, this Christmas, better or worse, and the best I can report for my efforts were the pleasantly bantering "Sure, we could always use some money for Christmas, you giving out any?" and "Give us a good write-up I spent over \$12 today."

Passing the main postoffice, I noticed a group of several hun-

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Folsom Aide Tells 'Worker' Of St-90 Talks

Other developments in the fallout arena are:

- N. Y. State Medical Society and N. Y. State Public Health Department schedule conference on milk contamination for Feb. 20.
- Wisconsin CIO will press for state law requiring tests of air and soil for strontium-90.
- United Nations Radiation Committee asks 87 nations to submit information.

For details see page 4.

By VIRGINIA GARDNER

THE Department of Health, Education and Welfare is holding conferences on the subject of radiostrontium and other radioactivity now present in the environment, a spokesman for the department told The Worker last week. The hazard to living, particularly infants and growing children, of internal radiation and its genetic effects, in the public debate over continued testing of high-yield bombs.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare was queried by The Worker on what it was doing in regard to strontium-90, potential cancer agent, whose presence in the nation's milk supply was revealed by Adlai Stevenson in the presidential campaign.

An aide to Marion Folsom, Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, was asked if Folsom could be reached by the reporter to find out about any activities investigating strontium-90.

"And what in the world would that be?" the aide asked.

She was told that it was the most poisonous of the fission products contained in fallout from nuclear bomb tests, that the Atomic Energy Commission had revealed now it had been testing metropolitan New York milkshed milk and

soil since early 1954 and other milk since 1955. She was asked also to tell Folsom that in Rochester, his home town, a proposal to institute tests of the milk there for strontium-90 is under consideration by the city board of health.

She said she thought it would "be a subject Mr. Folsom would not want to make a public statement on," but that she would see "who is 'up' on this problem" and have him call the reporter.

★
THE SPOKESMAN, calling later, pointed out that "this is a very broad subject and the Department's interest in it is very broad and it is engaged in many cooperative efforts" with other large organizations. These, he said, included the AEC, Department of Defense, the health departments of about 40 states, and professional societies, including medical, nuclear physicists and

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Ebenezer Scrooge, Publisher

By JOSEPH NORTH

WHEN the Woman's Home Companion and Collier's went down last week the fall should have roared through the land like giant

pinetrees that top in a forest. These magazines had enormous circulations—over four million each. They had a history, the Companion was established in 1873, and Collier's, which was established in 1888, once enjoyed the regular writings and editings in its pages of such literary stalwarts as Finley Peter Dunne (Mr. Dooley), Ring Lardner, H. G. Wells, Rudyard Kipling, Mark Twain and Norman Hapgood.

Both had authority, history and readers—everything but enough of the dollars that advertising brings. We are told both lost \$7,500,000 this past year. Paul C. Smith, president and chairman of Crowell-Collier, parent firm of the two, said cryptically the losses were due to rising costs and falling revenue.

Mr. Smith said the disappearance of these two publications will "affect" over 2,400 employees. But he did not have the courage to spell that out. Theodore H. White, senior writer for Collier's, and spokesman for the committee, did: these men and women who worked without ben-

efit of a trade union will lose their jobs without a cent of severance pay, old age pensions, anything that would keep them a step ahead of the poorhouse. Some worked here 30 years; an elderly switchboard operator, half a century.

It is brutal, too, that the Board of Directors refused to lift a finger to help the employees buy the magazines. "We were told," White reports, "that we have to raise \$2 million within a day if we wanted to save the magazines." He intimated that if he were given time, the minimal offering the publishers granted under the cruel circumstances, the employees could have raised the appropriate sum. Even that dispensation was denied them.

SO, ON THE EVE of Merry Christmas when the publishers devote considerable space and time to declare their adherence to the Christly creed (when the carols are sounding on the radio) these veteran employees face bleak times.

I wonder how J. Patrick Lannan, the Chicago financier who moved in last week as a director and chairman of the publishing firm, will enjoy the egg-nog of Yule as he contemplates, (which he may, who knows?) his Scrooge-like decision to turn these old and faithful workers out into the cold. (It was his decision to chop the giant pinetrees down.) Even medieval old King Wenceslas called for his page to locate the poor and feed them Christmas gruel. Lannan went no further than to



promise a "job-placement bureau" on the premises.

And Smith, once known as the boy-wonder when he edited the San Francisco News Chronicle in his late twenties, and who has grown up to be the president of the Crowell-Collier firm, said piously, "The stockholders of our company number more than 7,000, and it is the primary duty of their board and chief executive officer to protect their investment."

SO WE SEE, even at Christ-

mas time, the dominant ethic that reigns over the capitalist order of society: Protect your investment, and let men starve as they may.

There is perhaps another fact to this journalistic phenomenon. How is it that two periodicals of circulations surpassing four and a quarter million each, couldn't make ends meet? The number of readers would indicate some considerable degree of loyalty and affection for the periodicals.

Personally, I have little brief for Collier's editorial policy which, I feel, has slid downhill for some years, hitting a low and dismal point when it devoted an issue virtually to exhorting a war between the USA and USSR, and gloated that "Guys and Dolls" would be playing the boards in the Moscow Bolshoi theatre after we got through with benighted Russkies. Down

with Ulyanov, out with Oistrakh, death to Chekhov, Pushkin and Gorky. Generally speaking, this represented the current thinking of Collier's, whose editorials were written by Reuben Maury, the genius who writes the editorials on the Daily News. It was a long bleak stretch backward from Maury to Peter Finley Dunne and his sagacious, and humane bartender Mr. Dooley.

WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION, on the other hand, was different. I had taken to reading it the past few years, as I understand, many another husband did. Its frank and honest discourses on many social and personal questions of the day impressed me. The magazine was established 83 years back as the Home Companion; and some of our senior readers may remember Gertrude B. Lane, its most famous editor who held the post from 1912 until she died in 1941. Under her guidance the publication grew from 788,000 to more than 3,600,000.

One can well reflect upon the sorry state of journalistic affairs; once upon a time our nation had over 3,000 daily newspapers. Today the number has shrunk to 1,800. This past year three vast periodicals, the American Magazine, Collier's and Woman's Home Companion are gone from the news-stands. "And so even the stage for a diversity of viewpoint has shrunk. As we have abundantly heard in the midst of recent political campaigns, American has virtually become a country of a one-party press."

I do not, in conclusion, wish to grind a personal axe, but the fate of these giants of circulation should help our readers understand the burdens a paper like ours shoulders. If periodicals with four million readers cannot make a go of it in this dog-eat-dog economic setup, it is little less than a miracle that our paper can continue to appear.

Could it be that our simple devotion to the principle of peace on earth, good will to men is mightier than the millions of dollars that crossed the palms of Crowell-Collier's?

AFL-CIO Sees Jan. 3 Crucial on Rights

By ABNER W. BERRY

DESPITE the Democratic platform pledge on civil rights legislation and the almost unanimous agreement that such legislation is impossible unless Senate filibusters can be curbed, the effort against the filibuster is still supported by only 12 U. S. Senators. The AFL-CIO News, noting that there are only four Republicans—Thomas Kuchel (Calif.), Clifford Case (N.J.), Irving Ives (N.Y.) and Edward J. Thye (Minn)—declaring for the rule change, declared editorially:

"This year 46 or 47 Republicans will attend the Jan. 3 (1957) session. If the Administration wants civil rights legislation, then these Republicans can quickly demonstrate it by voting for the anti-filibuster revision of Rule 22."

The labor paper stresses the importance of taking the issue up on Jan. 3, when a majority can cut off debate, rather than dallying until later when the old rule will permit a filibuster against which no closure steps can be taken.

Southern Democrats, the AFL-CIO News predicts, will continue to fight for the right to filibuster while northern and western Democrats will vote to change the rule, adding:

"The absolute balance of power will be held by the Republicans."

A CHORUS OF DEMANDS from a variety of organizations joined that of the AFL-CIO News:

• The NAACP national office sent a letter to its branches in 25 states urging visits to U.S. Senators on the issue.

• Negro Ministers formed a National Ministers' Civil Rights Conference to meet in Washington on Jan. 8 to press for action against filibusters, protest the withdrawal

of seniority and patronage privileges from Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-NY), and to request desegregation enforcement by President Eisenhower and Attorney General Herbert Brownell.

• The American Civil Liberties Union made the fight against the filibuster a part of its program to give support to southerners in their legal fight against segregation.

• In New York, the Liberal Party announced a campaign to collect 300,000 signatures on a petition calling for senatorial action against filibusters.

• The American Jewish Committee asked Congress to abolish filibusters, warning that passage of civil rights legislation would continue to be "extremely remote" unless the senate rules are changed.

BUT, WHILE THE DEMANDS for change mounted, Senate liberals became more timorous, as if caught between the cross-fire of the people's wants and the power still wielded by the Congressional Dixiecrats. On the Republican side there is the comfortable coalition in the Senate with the Dixiecrats that an all-out civil rights fight would impair.

The veteran legislative representative of the NAACP, Clarence Mitchell, writing in the current Baltimore Afro-American points out:

"The real Democratic leadership in the Senate rests somewhere between Richard Russell, unre-

gia, and Harry F. Byrd of Virginia."

It was Russell who led the Dixiecrat bloc into the GOP-Dixiecrat alliance in 1949.

Northern Democrats are under pressure from the nominal majority leader Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas, Mitchell to "see things through Russell - colored glasses" if they are to get committee appointments and consideration of their pet bills.

"It is difficult to know what is gained by having Sen. Johnson act as a kind of front man for the arch foes of civil rights," Mitchell writes. "Democrats who must depend on their civil rights record to get re-elected should demand an opportunity to select another majority leader. Unless they do, they must accept responsibility for the present condition which permits Russell et al. to run things by remote control."

Mitchell's explanation, for the slowness of liberal senators was reflected by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in a somewhat pessimistic tone. The League commented last Saturday:

"Until a bi-partisan liberal bloc committed to civil rights wins a comfortable majority in the Senate and House, the chances of a major breakthrough on civil rights will be slim indeed."

Meantime the voters are proceeding on the basis of the fact that they were electing such a liberal majority. For isn't that what the platforms led them to believe?

N.Y. Auto Show Didn't Tell the Detroit Story

DETROIT.—Though the Automobile Manufacturers Association backs of the workers in the process.

is reported to have spent \$11½ million to launch the 1957 cars at the National Auto Show in New York last week, it did not tell the entire truth about the automotive industry.

This was left unsaid:

1. Unemployment in Michigan, primarily among auto workers, has grown from 83,000 last year to 140,000 this year.

2. Although Harlow Curtice, of General Motors, Henry Ford II, and other tycoons predict a 6½ million new car season, a survey by a national magazine, Colliers, predicts it will be a 5½ million season. That would mean at least a 3½ month layoff for 5-10 year seniority people.

The big auto show at the New York Coliseum did not—amidst the soft lights, heavenly music and

Madison Avenue halleluia—quote a single word of Walter Reuther, UAW head. He said that the price of a car will mean 100,000 jobs less. A million Americans less will buy, Reuther said, because they are unable to meet the price or the payments.

Further, omitted from the Coliseum jubilee was the fact that GM's Fisher, Chrysler, Highland Park, Dodge Main, and at least a dozen other plants are taking strike votes.

The hard fact is that a wild production battle rages among the three remaining giants of the industry: GM, Ford, Chrysler. Each is trying to crack all past produc-

tion records even if it breaks the backs of the workers in the process.

HIGH ON THE FINTAILS of the 1957 model rides not only speedup, but automation. Both are now the bane of the auto workers' lives.

Automation has taken a heavy toll of jobs as have runaway shops and plants built at government expense or with fast tax writeoff agreements made with the Cadillac Cabinet members. All this is done in the name of "meet competition" and reduce costs.

The Big Three are bypassing the bare elementary health and safety standards to get production. More workers are being injured, ruptured, lacerated, burned, the Workmen's Compensation Commission says. The death rate has crept up too. This is why strike votes are piling up.

In a UAW poll 85 percent favored the 30 hour week with 40 hours pay. These workers see what's happening behind the chrome and the finetails. After all, Ford made \$145,200,000 profits after taxes the first nine months of 1956, and GM \$639,585,399, while the layoffs among workers got longer, speedup increased: profits continue to mount to an all-time high.

Hence the 30 hour week for 40 hour pay is the overwhelming choice, simultaneously the workers indicate they want wage increases, more pension money, better health and medical care.

You didn't hear any of this at the Coliseum last week.

Wall Street's Sugar Baby—Fulgencio Batista

By ART SHIELDS

NOTHING CHEERS a sick millionaire like news that the money is rolling in. And Secretary of State John Foster Dulles must have been comforted on his hospital bed by news that the prices of NICKEL—the jet plane metal—and SUGAR were booming. They were booming during the Suez war crisis. For NICKEL and SUGAR are choice tid-bits of the war profiteers. And Dulles is interested in both. . . .

Dulles is interested in NICKEL through the 400 million dollar International Nickel Corp. He was member of "Nickel's" executive committee for 25 years. . . .

And Dulles is deep in SUGAR as a Wall Street banker and lawyer. The Schroder banking house of New York City controls two of the biggest sugar plantation firms, with 450,000 acres in Cuba. Dulles was an agent of this Anglo-German-American bank for decades.

And the Secretary's law firm of Sullivan & Cromwell was the bank's chief counsel and its go-between in international deals.

THE SECRETARY's brother—Allan W. Dulles, the Chief of the Central Intelligence Agency (Project X)—was in Cuban Sugar too. For Allan Dulles was a director of the Schroder bank, and a partner of Sullivan & Cromwell many years.

The SUGAR war boom was fantastic. The price of raw Cuban sugar, in which the Dulles brothers were interested, went up more than 50 percent on the island after the shooting began. The jump was from \$3.23 per 100 pounds on October 30 (before the shots began to fly) to a peak of \$4.95 on November 29.

The price has dropped a bit since the powers moved back from the war brink. It is \$4.70 per 100 pounds as I'm writing today. But it is still 46 percent above the price

the Cuban-Wall Street magnates got before the Anglo-French-Israeli aggression began. And this rise will be passed on to the housewife, of course.

THE MANATI Sugar Co. and the Francisco Sugar Co. will profit immensely. These are the Cuban sugar giants that the Schroder bankers control, and that the law firm of Sullivan & Cromwell represents.

Dulles's Rockefeller backers will profit immensely too. For Avery Rockefeller is the chief American investor in the Schroder bank that controls the two firms. And Avery's cousin, David Rockefeller—a son of John D. Rockefeller, Jr.—is a director of another sugar giant. This is the Punta Alegre Sugar Co., with nearly 200,000 acres in Cuba.

THE CUBAN sugar cane cutters and grinders don't get this gravy, however. For the Cuban masses are terribly oppressed by the Batista dictatorship, which closely resembles Franco's. This dictatorship was set up in Havana with the help of Wall Street sugar planters. And hundreds of workers have been arrested, and scores of patriots murdered since General Fulgencio Batista came back to power four years ago.

THESE MURDERS are going



COL. FULGENCIO BATISTA

on faster this fall and winter. They are committed with American weapons. And the Dulles brothers must be laughing cynically as Batista's Ambassador to the United Nations—Nunez Portuondo—makes speeches about alleged "Genocide" in Hungary.

These speeches divert attention from the massacres in the Cadillac Cabinet's sugar colony today.

These massacres reached a new Hitlerite quality when Batista's police broke into the Haitian Embassy in Havana on October 29. The cops were shooting as they broke in. In several minutes they

apparent to many labor officials that the tranquil life many of them have led for some years in coming to an end. There is a growing trend of opposition to the "cult of personality" in many of our unions.

The pall of McCarthyism and cold war spirit is no longer strong enough to snuff out dissent or even active opposition. But there are also some very dangerous influences in the picture that falsely takes a "rank and file" cover and needs the attention of the labor movement.

THERE ARE two main trends in the rebellions we witness in the trade unions springing from sources diametrically opposed to each other—but they are fed by the same bureaucracy, disregard of the membership, opportunistic exploitation of union office and do-nothingism.

One tendency stems from progressive rank and filism that has been traditional in American unionism for generations and has always been a dynamic element of every big advance by the labor movement. This is the tendency for democratization of unions and end of one-man rule; more service from them on the needs of the members; more vigor in fighting for grievances like speedup and rate-cutting; opposition to the fantastically high salaries for officers, like the \$50,000 a year for David J. McDonald, president of the steelworkers; rejection of the concept that big treasuries and full-timers are the basis of union strength.

But there is a trend that echoes outside anti-union propaganda. The influence of anti-union propaganda should not be underestimated. Large numbers of union members are new, and for years have had no more relation to their union than the dues-checkoff on their envelopes and receipt of a copy of the union's paper in the mails.

They absorbed a tremendous amount of poison through numerous channels, spread by the NAM and other employer outfits, picturing the union as a "mon-

murdered 10 anti-Batista leaders, who had sought asylum in the Embassy under the international custom of diplomatic sanction.

The victims were youths in their twenties. But their families could hardly recognize some of them the next day. For the cops fired bullet after bullet into their bodies until they were mutilated almost beyond recognition.

PICTURES of these mutilated bodies were published in the Cuban Magazine "Bohemia" on November 11. The evidence was sufficient to drive Batista's Government out of the family of nations, had it been used. But not one word of protest came from Secretary Dulles or Under Secretary of State Herbert Hoover, Jr., the two imperialist exploiters who run the State Department today. Nor did Henry Cabot Lodge pay any attention to this murderous violation of the right of diplomatic asylum when he addressed the UN.

He was too busy crying out against those "16,000 Hungarian deportations," which didn't take place.

The killings went on. The United Press reported on December 2 that 40 anti-Batistas were slaughtered when they landed from a Mexican yacht on the Southern Cuban coast between the ports of Niquero and Manzanillo. They were literally blown to bits by bombing planes obtained from the United States.

Survivors fought back in two battles. Twenty-five more were said to have been killed. And a manhunt is on for the rest in the woods and hills of Eastern Cuba.

But the outcome of this latest people's movement, which is directed by Fidel Castro, the well-known anti-Batista leader, is still uncertain.

BATISTA first took power as a "liberal" in 1933. The butcher Machado—the darling of the sugar planters, who used to feed workers' leaders to the sharks in Havana Bay—had been ousted in a popular rising. His successor, a weak conservative named Cespedes, fell quickly. And Sergeant Batista, a former court stenographer, occupied the Presidential palace with a group of rebel army men behind him.

But Batista quickly proved to be another stooge of the sugar planters. He raided union headquarters in ruthless fashion. The planters' money began coming in. And Batista is said to be a millionaire many times over today.

The labor movement could not

be stopped, however. Nor the Communist Party, either. The Party's foots were deep in the toiling masses. Its press was eagerly read. And the Cuban Confederation of Labor, with the Party behind it, became the biggest mass movement in Cuba in the late 1930's and early 1940's.

BATISTA spread his sails to this popular breeze for awhile. He had been out of office several years. And when he came back he pretended to be a New Dealer at first. He went out again in the '40's.

But when he returned to power in March, 1952, it was in a fascist-like coup. He seized power by armed force from President Prío Sacarras, who had defeated his stooge Nunez-Portuondo in the election of 1948. And he followed the coup by raids on workers headquarters and by mass arrests of workers' leaders. The Communist Party was outlawed soon after.

The coup was hailed by Wall Street at once. And Barron's financial weekly applauded the General in a cross-the-page headline which said: "Batista's Cuban Coup Sweetens Outlook for Sugar Industry."

BATISTA would put labor in its place, the Wall Street paper went on to say.

"It is suspected," said Barron's, "that the coup, though highly illegal, was not entirely repugnant to the U. S. State Department. . . ."

It is an open secret that the sugar industry is pleased with the latest turn of events. The industry has lived with Batista before. . . . He is friendly to the United States. Perhaps, most of all, he can be expected to do something about the local labor unions. . . .

Barron's then expressed its pleasure at Batista's first actions after the coup:

"The top labor leaders were ousted almost immediately. All civil rights were suspended for a period of 45 days, including the right to strike." Cuba was again in the hands of the planters' chief goon.

AND the Dulles brothers are happy in the sugar boom. But the Cuban people are not. And several bold Cuban Americans demonstrated in the gallery of the United Nations December 10 with banners denouncing Batista's Genocide. Hundreds more carried their protest to the doors of the Cuban Consulate in New York.

The fight for freedom in Wall Street's sugar colony cannot be crushed.

WORLD OF LABOR

'Rebellions' Spreading In America's Unions

By GEORGE MORRIS

AMERICAN labor leaders who display great concern over events in Hungary are up against a steadily mounting spirit of rebellion in their own domain. It is not the kind of rebellion they can dispose of with a "red infiltration" charge.

To name a few of these rebellions. In the 1,200,000 member steelworkers a Dues Protest Movement against a raise of dues \$3 to \$5 monthly, is sweeping through many locals with a rank and file opposition slate for union office on the filed. In the auto union the leaders, their eyes on the situation in the steel union, are moving more cautiously for a raise of only 50 cents a month, but even they are encountering opposition in the locals.

The much stabilized century-old International Typographical Union just carried out a referendum vote in which a 50-cent per capita hike was voted down. In other unions the rebellion is over dissatisfaction with union handling of grievances that are steadily piling up, or resentment over official union "softness" towards employers.

IN SOME CASES the swivel chairs have been pulled from under officials who have come to regard their positions as life-long. We have the interesting Schenectady story. Leo Jandreau has had an uninterrupted career as head of the giant Gen-

eral Electric local of that city since the thirties—through the entire history of United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers as a left-winger and recently as a right-winger in association with James B. Carey of the IUE.

A "little man's" slate in the local's elections last week won 11 of the 12 offices at stake, with only Jandreau himself surviving—with a majority of only 58 votes of more than 7,000 cast (assuming a machine recheck didn't change the result). Back of this rebellion has been a year or more during which hardly a week passed without "wildcat" stoppages over grievances snarled up in red tape, with Jandreau kept more busy putting out fires than arguing over the issues.

Schenectady is a sample of what you'll find in hundreds of plants from coast to coast, with local officers usually on the spot before their members who expect them to do something more significant for the salaries they are collecting.

MIKE QUILL, too, has been having rebellion trouble for some time in New York, main base for the Transport Workers Union. His contract is with the city. He has no union shop in the sense that unions have it in private industry, so the transport workers vote with their feet—by walking out of the union and rescinding dues checkoff authorizations.

Neglect of union problems and a callousness towards the feelings of the members, has also provided much ammunition to a assortment of splinters—some of which are more than splinters—and the union's authority and bargaining right in the field is threatened more seriously than ever.

It is becoming increasingly



BATISTA makes a hasty lunch in camp just before the impeachment trial of former President Miguel Gomez, his political opponent. Batista was in control of the House and Senate, and Gomez was facing an impeachment trial.

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N.Y. Strontium Parley Set; UN Asks Nations for Data

The first major public discussion of the danger of contamination of milk by H-bomb fallout will take place in New York City, on Feb. 20, it was disclosed last week.

A conference called by the X-Ray Society of the New York State Medical Society will discuss the need to begin a statewide test of milk for Strontium-90, the source of bone cancer.

The conference will be chaired by Dr. Walter Murphy, head of the X-ray department of the Roswell Park Cancer Hospital of Buffalo, it was disclosed by Rochester, N.Y., AFL Labor News. The Labor News obtained its information from Dr. Theodore Steinhausen, Rochester radiologist and a member of the Economics Committee of the New York State Medical Society.

ANNOUNCEMENT of the scheduled conference was greeted warmly by Dr. William F. Neuman, chief of the biochemistry section of the Atomic Energy Project, University of Rochester. Several weeks ago Dr. Neuman, in an interview with the Labor News, emphasized the need for testing milk for Strontium-90.

"I'm very happy, indeed," Dr. Neuman said, "that the state's medical profession has formally taken steps in the strontium-90"

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Wisconsin CIO Calls for State Strontium Tests

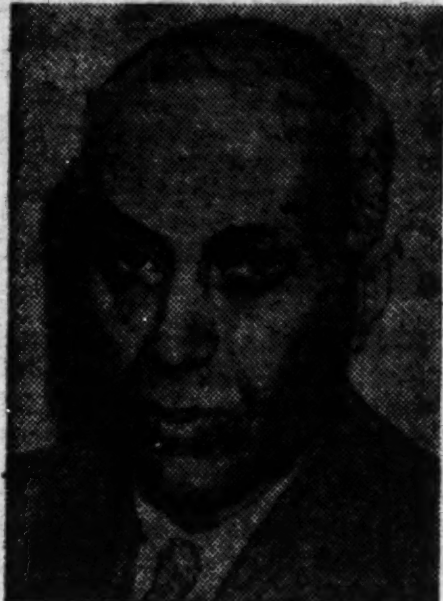
MILWAUKEE.—The Wisconsin CIO will press for a bill requiring periodic tests by the state of the air and soil to determine the presence of Strontium-90 released.

State CIO president Charles Schultz, announcing the CIO's proposed law, said "I am enough of an informed layman to know we have a real problem on our hands."

Atomic scientists almost to a man tell us that future generations may be cursed with deformities, brain damage and sterility if too much H-bomb radiation falls in Wisconsin.

The proposed bill would require a state agency to test the state's soil.

Peace Is the Only Base for Survival



NEHRU

IN HIS BROADCAST to the American people Wednesday night from Washington, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru declared that peace and freedom have become indivisible, and added: "In this atomic age, peace has also become a test of human survival."

In the foreword to the book "Nuclear Explosions," prepared by Indian scientists at Nehru's suggestion, and published last June by the Indian government, Nehru stresses the same theme, that war today means "death on a colossal scale." He added the warning:

"But even without war we have what are called nuclear test explosions which, in some measure, spread this evil thing over large parts of the world. These explosions continue in spite of the dangers in them."

"I trust that this study, brief and incomplete as it is, will be of some use in directing people's minds to the dreadful prospect of war in the nuclear age and to the dangers of continuing nuclear test explosions."

Nehru believed that the study would "give some idea of the world we live in and even more so of what the fate of the world is likely to be if we start playing about with nuclear warfare."

India two years ago proposed outright suspension of nuclear bomb testing and production, without waiting for any over-all agreement on disarmament or international controls.

Eighty-seven countries have been asked by the United Nations to supply a wide range of information on the hazards of radioactivity.

Here are a few of the items on which the UN's Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation has asked the governments to supply more data:

- Total amount of radioactive fallout.
- Total fission product in stratosphere.
- Estimated dose of gamma rays needed to affect gonads and produce mutations.
- Data on population showing number below mean age of reproduction, expected number of children of different groups, other data indicating "breeding habits of various groups."
- Amounts of strontium-90 in the air at ground level; in drinking water, surface soil, human urine, milk, animal skeletons and plants.
- Examination of human bones to determine how much strontium-90 now deposited; ages at which death occurred.
- To predict "the possible future content of human bones," measurements of amount of strontium-90 stored in the stratosphere.
- Measurement of "natural background radiation"—in rocks and soil and from cosmic rays.
- Data on amount of calcium in soil.
- To report annually to the Secretary-General into what seas materials are dumped; what marine organisms have an affinity to elements with radioactive isotopes, and how far they can carry those isotopes.

GOVERNMENT and specialized agencies of the UN were urged to submit information by Feb. 1 to be used at the committee's next meeting, to be devoted largely to genetics studies. Data turned in by Aug. 1 will be used at the following meeting.

Charts were set up for information on other artificial radiation including medical X-rays, fluoroscopy and even the X-rays which formerly were used in shoe-fitting, as well as the number of radium dial watches and clocks and their ratio to population.

18 Million White Collar Workers —A Challenge to the Trade Unions

By GEORGE MORRIS

THE STEADILY rising number of white collar workers is now near 18 millions, more than the total employment in manufacturing, equal to the number of unionists in America. Only 17 percent of them, however, belong to unions. Those significant facts

60,000 Scientists, Engineers in Unions

The National Industrial Conference Board, an employers statistical agency, disclosed last week that 60,000 of America's half million engineers are today represented by unions. The largest among them is the Engineers and Scientists of America. The trend towards unionization among the technicians is based on dissatisfaction with their wage status which has risen relatively slower than that of production workers.

At the AFL-CIO white collar conference in Washington speakers observed that some engineers' locals, particularly Arma's technical workers in Long Island, are among the most militant unionists. The Arma group participated in a long strike in 1955.

are in a class by themselves and don't feel like workers. This "myth" he said must be destroyed. Then there are obstacles within the labor movement where some 30 different AFL-CIO affiliates hold jurisdiction over sections of white-collar workers. Much of the conflict is between two major trends: those who believe the workers can be brought into separate white-collar unions; and the industrial unions who aim to organize the white-collar workers in their field as divisions of their unions, as in steel, auto and electrical.

LIVINGSTON SEEMED to favor a many-sided approach to the problem, depending on the situation and the possibilities of success. This means that where a drive is possible at some big concentration of white collar workers, as in were put before last week's two-day AFL-CIO conference in Washington which dealt with the problems and organizations of the white collar workers.

The conference, attended by some 200 representatives of AFL-CIO affiliates and addressed by the top leaders of the federation, raised hopes that the organizing drives which were promised during the AFL-CIO merger convention a year ago, will begin to materialize in some fields. The conference was arranged by the Industrial Unions Department. There was no definite indication, however, where and when labor's attacks on the white collar targets will begin.

Jack Livingston, organization director of AFL-CIO, expressed the hope that success would be achieved because of labor's unity and because of the vast resources at its command.

He also pointed to the difficulties involved. There is still the "myth" that white-collar workers Wall Street or in the Hartford home offices of various insurance firms, the workers would be taken

(Continued on Page 5)

The Worker

PUBLISHED EVERY SUNDAY BY THE PUBLISHERS NEW PRESS, INC., 25 E. 12th St., New York 3, N. Y. Telephone ALgonquin 4-7854. Cable Address: "Daiwork," New York, N. Y.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
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DAILY WORKER and THE WORKER	\$4.75	\$8.00	\$13.00
DAILY WORKER	4.00	7.00	12.00
THE WORKER	2.00	3.50	6.00
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HERBIE, AGAIN

LOOK WHOSE HEART'S bleeding for Hungary! Behind the Santa Claus whiskers you'll find none other than that old Scrooge, Herbie Hoover, who has become honorary chairman of an outfit called First Aid for Hungary, Inc.

This is the same Hoover who as President of the United States refused first aid to the American people and instead starved the unemployed.

This is the same Hoover who gave the 1932 bonus marchers (World War I veterans) bullets instead of aid by calling out the troops against them.

This is the same Hoover who in 1940 organized aid for "poor little Finland"—for the Finnish fascists who soon aligned their country with Hitler in World War II.

And it is the same Hoover who back in 1919, as head of the Allied Supreme Economic Council, used food and bribes to help foreign invading armies overthrow the first Hungarian Socialist Republic.

The president of First Aid for Hungary, Inc. is Dr. Tibor Eckhardt, described in a full-page newspaper ad as a "former high official of the Hungarian government and now an American citizen." The ad tactfully fails to state that Eckhardt was a former high official of the FASCIST, ANTI-SEMITIC HORTHY REGIME that ruled Hungary for over 20 years and became a puppet of the Nazis.

We are heartily in favor of aid for the Hungarian people through relief agencies cooperating with the UN and the Hungarian government.

We are against fund-raising by outfits whose main purpose is reactionary propaganda or worse. For the same reason we do not believe that Vice-President Nixon's trip to Austria, supposedly to examine the Hungarian refugee situation, has any genuine humanitarian aim.

The biggest help to the Hungarian people by our government would be to end the subversive activities of Project X and the Central Intelligence Agency and the incitements of Radio Free Europe and Voice of America.

Without the "aid" of those who have other fish to fry, we are confident the Hungarian people and their government are capable of reaching an understanding that will restore peace and stability and pave the way for the withdrawal of Soviet troops.

ABOUT MOVIES AND MOVIE ADS

THIS, LET US MAKE CLEAR, is not a review of the controversial moving picture "Baby Doll," which became a minor sensation when attacked from the pulpit by Cardinal Spellman. The film will be seen and judged on its merits or lack of same by a Worker reviewer. We also want to make clear that this newspaper stands against censorship. We believe works of art, or attempts at works of art, must be judged, accepted or rejected on their worth by the people.

Having said this, we want to express an opinion on a related subject, that of the crude movie ads which appear in the newspapers and are an affront to the intelligence as well as the good taste of the nation. These ads, featuring leering suggestiveness, brutality and sheer sensationalism, most often have nothing at all to do with the content of the movies—if any—but are an unrestrained competition in luring cash customers into the theatres.

As examples, here are two recent ones: For the movie "Julie," the ads featured the uplifting spectacle of a horrified and frightened girl with the big headline "BRIDAL NIGHT FRIGHT!"—AS PICTURED IN LIFE MAGAZINE!

For the movie "Bad Seed," the ads showed a woman framed in a doorway, in a nightgown, and said, "You can talk all you want about the child, but DON'T GIVE AWAY THE STORY OF THE WOMAN . . . the most shocking low to which a woman ever descended."

In both cases these were just cheap tricks having nothing whatsoever to do with the content of the picture.

Here, we submit, is an example of the jungle ethics of capitalism's scramble for the buck, and let the devil take decency, morality, truth and the fight against juvenile delinquency.

When the American people establish a system of socialism, it will have a far higher morality than capitalism. It will not need censorship to deal with such irresponsible, contemptuous affronts to the sentiments of the people. For socialism's movie ads will not be the product of a sordid, rat race competition for profits.

What to do now? We feel that intelligent, decent public opinion through organizations of the people should be brought to bear on this pernicious type of advertising, just as it has started to curb the worst of the atrocious "comic books."

Communist Leaders Urge Aid to 'Worker' Circulation Drive

THE DAILY WORKER and The Worker are "in the deepest sense indispensable weapons for the advanced forces in America," the National Committee of the Communist Party said last week in a resolution calling on all members of their party "to back to the hilt our circulation campaign."

The C.P. committee took its stand in the course of a four-day session preparatory to the Party's national convention in February.

Last week's issue of The Worker published our call for the circulation campaign, which opens formally on January 1 and will run to April 30.

The C.P. committee's statement said:

The National Committee wholeheartedly endorses the circulation campaign of the Daily Worker and The Worker opening Jan. 1.

We must have plain talk. The Daily Worker and The Worker have never been in such grave danger. It is literally true that these papers may be compelled to go out of existence shortly unless there is speedy, determined and united support given them. This support must be not only by way of cash, but above all, by building their circulation. Without a substantially increased circulation these papers, despite heroic financial support from their loyal readers, cannot continue to live.

The reason for the crisis is obvious. There has been a sustained cold war attack on the papers by reaction. It is a notorious fact that, despite the constitutional guarantee of free press, the FBI has harassed the papers. The Treasury Department carried through its infamous raid on the papers last summer under the pretext of seeking taxes never due it. The Department of Justice has used the thought-control Smith Act against editors, writers and the former publisher of the paper. Certain reactionary unofficial groups have sought to drive the papers from the newsstands.

But all of these efforts, singly or together, could not and cannot destroy the paper. The new dimension to the crisis is the internal differences among the Left. There are those—fortunately relatively

few—who have sought to carry their differences with the editorial policies of the papers to the extent of boycotting the paper, cancelling subscriptions, refusing to raise funds, etc. Such a trend, if unchecked, will doom the papers.

The Daily Worker was born nearly 33 years ago. It has proudly carried the struggle for socialism, for peace, for workingclass unity and for Negro rights. The Daily Worker and The Worker have proud and honorable records in the struggles of the American people. They need the loyal and fraternal help of all their readers. (Continued on Page 18)

WHITE COLLAR

(Continued from Page 4)

into a general union of office workers. On the other hand if the auto union sees the possibility of unionizing the workers in General Motors or Ford general offices, they would take them into special locals of the UAW.

Then there are unions of insurance, retail, telephone, government and other predominantly white-collar workers; of school teachers and social service workers. In most of these areas, the unions embrace a tiny section of the total number of workers and do not have the resources to attempt the major job seriously. The question is where the AFL-CIO will throw in its resources and organizers immediately.

ROUGHLY THE PICTURE is as follows. The white-collar workers are about one-third of the non-farm workers. Nearly one-half of the 18 million are in the clerical category. The government employs about seven million workers, mostly white collars. There are about 2,000,000 stenographers, typists and secretaries in the nation. Cashiers and bookkeepers come to another million. Sales workers number some 4.5 million, with two-thirds of their number retail clerks. There are some 5,000,000 in the professional and technical group, not counting self-employed. Of these about 2,000,000 are teachers.

Since the war the number of "blue-collar" workers—those in production—has barely increased, by only some five percent. But workers in the non-manufacturing fields, chiefly white-collar workers, rose by 52 percent in the period.

Stanley Ruttenberg, AFL-CIO research director also gave some examples showing the contrasting trends since 1947. In the food industries employment among production workers rose just one percent but employment of non-production workers in the industry rose 40 percent. In the textile industry production jobs dropped 24 percent but in non-production employment there was a seven percent rise. In the lumber production industry jobs went down 13 per-



GRUENTHER



BULGANIN

cent. In the chemical industry it was six percent up in production and 67 percent up in non-production.

JAMES B. CAREY, head of the electrical union, noted that for the past year the number of production workers in manufacturing declined by 100,000 although output rose substantially.

"The irony, in part, lies in the fact that if it were not for the rise in the number of white-collar workers there would be serious unemployment in the country today," said Carey.

Ruttenberg observed that while ten years ago one in every six workers entering manufacturing took a white-collar job, today three to four workers in every six take such jobs.

Another development of recent years, the conference noted, is the widening gap between conditions of blue collar and white collar workers, to the advantage of the former.

While in former years white collar workers enjoyed greater job security, shorter hours and almost exclusively enjoyed vacations, today it is the unionized production worker who has the better job security, shorter hours, longer paid vacations, grievance machinery and more dignity.

Speakers pointed out that white collar workers today regard themselves as workers because they are economically far behind production workers and the demonstrated advantages for the minority of white collarites that is organized, as in the telephone, retail, newspaper, entertainment and some government and technical fields, is wiping out past antipathy to unions. In a large sense, it was stressed, the problem is the will and capacity of the labor movement to undertake the drives.

World Opinion Puts Spotlight on Arms Reduction

By JOSEPH CLARK

TWO UNOFFICIAL but highly authoritative reports from Washington have put the disarmament issue back in the middle of world affairs. One was that the U. S. has decided to suspend major H-bomb tests at least through 1957, according to a dispatch in the N. Y. Post Dec. 12.

The other was that the U. S. has agreed to modify its previous disarmament plan, according to a report in the N. Y. Times Dec. 14.

The Post article by Robert Spivack said the Atomic Energy Commission "soon will announce that next year's nuclear tests will be restricted to the area of Las Vegas, Nevada." This, the Post writer said, "will be a guarded way of disclosing that no large-scale H-bomb tests are planned," for 1957.

An ironic aspect of this Administration decision is that during the election campaign Eisenhower and Nixon lambasted Stevenson and Kefauver for proposing a halt to such H-bomb tests. The report came after a continuing campaign all over the world, for more than a year, against the dread continuation of the world's atmosphere by H-bomb tests. Personalities as varied in viewpoint as Pope Pius XII and Premier Bulganin, Prime Minister Nehru and Adlai Stevenson endorsed the proposal. The Soviet government had incorporated the proposal in its disarmament plan presented to the Geneva summit conference in July, 1955.

THE TIMES STORY about a new approach to disarmament was written by its Washington Bureau chief, James Reston. Unwittingly it was an admission that the inflexible attitude of the Administration was the major reason for the disarmament deadlock. The modifications which Reston said had been agreed upon by "the highest level of the Executive branch of government" were:

"1. That the major nations should start reducing the size of their armed forces to a maximum of 2,500,000 without waiting for the operation of a foolproof inspection would proceed concurrently under this proposal, without waiting for a completed inspection system, as proposed by Washington in the past.

"2. That the United Nations Disarmament subcommittee also should make a specific effort to reach an agreement on the limitation and control of future development of long-range guided missiles.

"3. That every effort should be made, possibly starting with an early reply to the Nov. 17 disarmament letter of Marshal Nikolai A. Bulganin, Soviet premier, to explore the Soviet Union's proposal for a 'considerable reduction' of United States, Soviet, British and French troops in the territories of the North Atlantic Treaty and Warsaw Pact countries."

FOR MANY AMERICANS this was the first indication that the emperor was naked till now, that is, Washington's disarmament plans were not really disarmament plans. For a long time the country had been told that it was the Russian refusal to accept inspection which blocked disarmament. But now it is indirectly admitted that the Administration was demanding inspection BEFORE disarmament rather than a program of simultaneous disarmament AND inspection.

The Soviet government's acceptance of at least a modified version of President Eisenhower's aerial inspection scheme made the Administration veto of disarmament progress extremely difficult.

Previously the Soviet government had accepted the Western plan for establishing fixed limits for the armed forces of the major powers. And the specific figures suggested

by the West were also accepted by the Soviet Union. But as Stevenson pointed out during the election campaign the Administration has backed away from its own proposals when the "menace" of Soviet agreement reared its head. As it is, the modified Administration plan establishes forces of 2,500,000 for the U. S. and the USSR, whereas the Soviet had already accepted the previous British-French plan of 1,500,000.

RESTON'S revelation that the Administration was ready to "explore" the Soviet suggestion to reduce NATO and Warsaw Pact forces stationed in European countries was of the greatest significance. It brought up again the imperative need for a mutual evacuation of all American and Soviet troops from foreign soil in Europe as a basis for a European settlement satisfactory to all countries concerned. This idea was stressed by India's prime minister Nehru in his talks with President Eisenhower.

And Walter Lippmann indicated in a N. Y. Herald Tribune column (Dec. 18) how powerful the idea has become. Opposing the notion of any East European settlement "by an explosion" Lippmann urged negotiations. He pointed out:

"There are two things which we can do which may help. One is to keep making it clear that we hope for peaceably negotiated settlements between the Soviet Union and all its East European neighbors. The other is to keep alive and in the field of open public discussion all over the world the idea of a general settlement in which NATO would enter—a settlement based on the reunification of Germany and the withdrawal of foreign troops throughout some kind of broad neutralized security belt extending from Scandinavia to the Balkans."

That public discussion and pressure was urgently needed could be seen in the statements of General Gruenther during the past week. He demanded a policy which called for "nuclear retaliation" against what he chose to call "brush fires" anywhere in the world. In other words, insisting on a policy of hydrogen bomb blackmail to impose solutions throughout the world. According to Reston these statements by Gruenther reflected the views of a group in the present Administration which opposes any steps toward reduction or limitation of arms. It was clear that public opinion would once more be the decisive factor for resolving this division in the Administration.

N. Y. PARLEY

(Continued from Page 4)

testing proposal. The medical doctors have a tremendous stake in this, perhaps more so than the physicists and nuclear experts already worried over the problem of strontium-90 in milk.

The Feb. 20 conference, which will be held in the Statler Hotel, beginning at 9 a.m. is being sponsored jointly by the X-Ray Society and the New York State Public Health Department.

Persons interested in the conference, the Labor-News reported, should contact Dr. Percival Robin, president of the X-Ray Society, New York State Medical Society, 131 Fulton Ave., Hempstead, N.Y., for further information.



FAIRLESS

2 EXECS WHO DIDN'T MAKE A MILLION

"Textile Labor," magazine of the Textile Workers Union of America, runs the following in its column titled "The Funny Papers":

"Benjamin Fairless, erstwhile big wheel at U. S. Steel who has retired on a lot more than social security, unburdened himself of the following in a recent interview:

"Many of the top executives of our largest corporations have spent a lifetime in the field of

industrial management without having been able to accumulate as much as a million dollars. And I know that to be a fact because I happen to be one of them myself."

"Lo, the forgotten man!

"But before we start passing the hat for Brother Fairless witness the plight of a fellow executive. The owner of a Hartford motel, one Alex Crawford, was hailed before the Connecticut labor commissioner on a charge

he violated the state 75-cent minimum wage law by paying his night clerk only 53 cents an hour for a 93-hour week. Not so, Crawford argued. The night clerk is no mere night clerk: he's an executive, so he is not subject to the minimum wage law.

"So it looks like Ben Fairless is right; here's another executive who's gonna have trouble accumulating that million."

Dear Editor

Letters from Readers

A LITTLE GIRL ON THE H-BOMB

Dear Editor: NEW YORK
I am a young girl of 14. I know very little about the world but I know about the bomb and what it can do. I enclose a poem entitled "The Bomb":

The sun shone and warmed the earth
The moon shone and warmed the darkness
But one day it was still
Then came a flash, red, black, with white streaks
Then there was nothing
No sun, no moon, no people, no animals, no trees
No flowers, no pussy cats
There was nothing
It was the bomb, the bomb, the bomb, the Atom the H
the bomb
Why? How? Who did it?
The leaders told the rich, who told the executives
who told the manager who told the workers
To make the bomb
The leaders and rich told the politicians who told the
workers: make the bomb to protect you and kill you
And now there is nothing, no world, no people, plants,
animals or pussy cats

-L.L.

Right Book Wrong Cover

NEW YORK.

Dear Editor:
You published an article on hernias, where no mention was made of the rectum. Yet the title was: "New Cures for Rectal Ills." Almost all your medical articles are faulty.

-B. LIBER.

(Note: Sorry. Article was correct, but title was wrong—Editors.)

Press Should Tell About Fallout

NEW YORK.

Dear Editor:
A letter from a good lady in the magazine Newsweek, Dec. 10, reads in full: "Every publication in the country should put the disastrous facts of Strontium-90 on the front page. Has man grown so unfeeling that he sanc-

tions H-bomb tests, knowing that the resultant fallout will decimate his young? If so, then we are fiends who should be made sterile."

On Dec. 2 and 9 The Worker performed the very useful public service the lady wants every publication in the country to do.

Were all the newspapers rendering this kind of service a huge body of enlightened and aroused public opinion would be demanding that an international agreement be negotiated banning bomb tests and prohibiting their use in warfare, thus assuring for the race a future safe from the disastrous effects that man-made poisoning of the atmosphere, food, water, vegetation, body flesh and bone, each new test of nuclear weapons makes the inescapable certain.

-HUMANUS

(Continued on Page 14)

Farm Workers Set Back In Right-to-Work Law

AS A WORKER and organizer in many states, now a fairly old inhabitant of Louisiana, I'm interested in the charges by Norman Thomas that right-to-work re-enactment here "double-crossed" the agricultural workers. I agree re-enactment was a bitter mistake.

Your readers know that today's plantation owners largely control processing. This has opened new possibilities for organizing farm and farm-factory workers in the "hard-to-organize" South. Packing-house Workers Union has done especially fine work here in sugar, indicating prospects of strong rapid growth.

Recalling the nationwide acclaim for the victories in Godchaux, and Domino, some may find it incredible that state AFL-CIO leadership would make a deal with sugar, cotton and rice growers at the expense of the young lusty unions in industrialized agriculture. Unfortunately the evidence belies the whitewash which AFL-CIO president Meany and the executive council gave Louisiana leadership tactics, following Mr. Thomas charges.

★
THE 1956 acts were passed in Louisiana—one repeal, the other re-enactment. Here's the important part of the re-enactment, Act 397—the lines I've underscored represent the wording of the bill as introduced with union officials' sanction. The rest of the passage is amendments added in the legislature:
... As used in this Act, the term "agricultural laborers" means only those persons employed in the ginning processing cotton seed and compressing of cotton, the irrigation, harvesting, drying and milling of rice, the sowing, tending, reaping and/or harvesting of crops, livestock, or other agricultural prod-

ucts on farms and plantations or those persons employed in the processing of raw sugar cane into brown sugar where such persons or their employees are not directly connected or concerned with any operation to further process such cane; except that those persons working for the raisers of such cane may process sugar beyond the brown sugar stage for such raisers and still remain within the definition of agricultural laborers but except as provided above, such term does not include persons employed in mills, plants, factories, wholesale or retail sales outlets, or otherwise in the transportation, storage, preparation, processing or sale of such crops, livestock or produce, except for transportation by the grower of rice from the field to the mill, or initial storage warehouse, for transportation of cotton by the grower from the field to the gin, or for transportation of sugar cane by the grower from the field to the mill at which the cane is to be initially processed, and for the transportation of cotton seed from the gin to the mill. . . .

Rep. Bryan Lehman, Jr., described as "floor lieutenant for labor forces seeking repeal," shared in introducing this bill which already contained the parts underscored above. Thus it was not "originally a bill for complete repeal" as Meany appear to believe. (FP 8-31).

Moreover, if the state leadership had nothing to hide, why did it instruct all union members to "stay away (from the state legislature) and trust our judgment" (the judgment of a seven-man lobby of union officials)? What kind of leaders are those who boast (AFL-CIO News July 14) of forbidding "all demonstrations before legislative committees and elsewhere?"

★
WITH the rank and file absent, Sen. B. B. Rayburn, former pipe-

A 300TH ANNIVERSARY

They Brought to America Peace and Faith in Deeds

By JAMES DOLSEN

THREE HUNDRED YEARS ago an old woman and a 22-year-old girl—both from England—landed in Boston. They were immediately arrested. Religious tracts they had brought were confiscated and burned on the Commons. Then both were deported.

The two women were the first Quakers in America. Their books had been burned because of the "dangerous thoughts" they had expounded. The women were deported because they might spread "subversive ideas" that would undermine the Puritan theocracy which then ruled the town and Massachusetts province with an iron hand.

The Puritans, who so harshly denied haven to these religious refugees, had themselves fled England for similar reasons some years before.

Thousands of Quakers sought refuge in this new land from the bitter persecution which attended their break with the Established Church in England during the 17th and 18th centuries. The story of their settlement in Pennsylvania under the leadership of Wm. Penn is familiar to every American school child. "Pennsylvania" itself signifies "Penn's woods."

★
THE SECTS own title is "The Religious Society of Friends." It was an English magistrate in the 17th century who derisively called its members "Quakers" from their declaration that they "trembled" in the "ever-constant presence of the Lord."

The membership of the Society has always been small. Even today it is estimated by their authorities that there are less than 200,000 in the whole world. Of these, about 125,000 are in the U.S. Their estimated population in the Philadelphia area—the historic center of the American Quakers—is some 18,000.

This religious grouping is one of the smallest in the world, yet its influence—particularly in our country—has been all out of proportion to that size.

To what factors can this disproportionate influence be traced? For this answer I visited the headquarters of the Friends in Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly



William Penn headed first settlement

Love, so named by its founder, William Penn.

THE PERSONS in charge were characterized by that kindness and courtesy which I have found generally characteristic of the Quakers—or Friends—as they call themselves. They felt the answer to my question lay in the fact that certain of the views and particularly activities of the Quakers had an important influence on this country's development, especially as concerns its democracy.

Take, for instance our Bill of Rights, the guarantee so far as it is enforced, of our individual liberties and collective rights.

The Quakers have always been insistent on the freedom of religious worship and the separation of church and state. Pennsylvania was the only colony where a man could hold office no matter to what church he belonged. Separation of church and state was in effect only in that colony and in New Jersey, Delaware and Rhode Island, in all of which this separation was due to Quaker influence.

The Quakers derive their stand for freedom of speech and belief from their conviction of the worth and dignity of the individual. They hold that all are equal in the sight of God. This dictated their early stand against slavery.

It is, however, the pacifist position of the Quakers that is best known to the American public. Their "Peace Testimony" includes the refusal under any circumstances to bear arms against anybody. To this is attached an obligation to participate and support in activities designed for the alleviation of human misery and oppression or for constructive reconciliation and improvement.

In the early years of their history the Quakers hoped that their own peaceful way of life and refusal to be provoked to violence would demonstrate that a peaceful world could be achieved, that internal disputes could be settled without violence and international

disputes without bloodshed.

To them, violence is wrong and to be abhorred, whatever the "justification" and whatever the consequences. They admit that non-violent methods often fail, but point out that the same is true of violent methods.

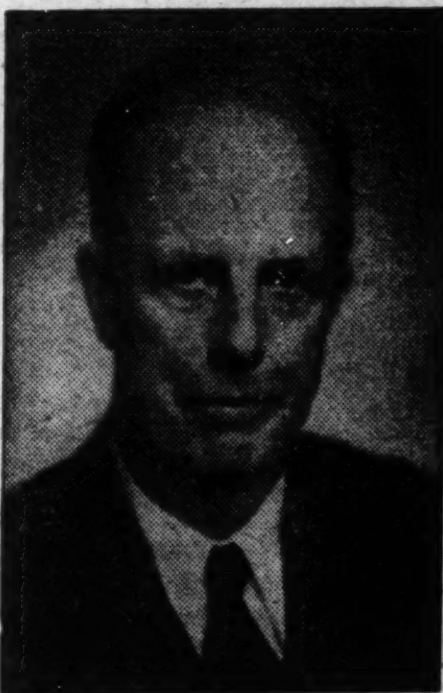
★
THE POSITIVE SIDE of Quaker activities in wartime was formally established during World War I, when the American Friends Service Committee was established to "conduct a program in which we can conscientiously serve humanity."

This Committee, financially autonomous, is the service agency for the Society. Among the program of relief, reconstruction and reconciliation it has conducted in this country is that of helping conscientious objectors, both in prison and in Civilian Service Camps.

Other programs aim at ending discrimination against members of minority groups, especially Negro and Mexican-Americans in jobs, housing, and schooling. Then there is the Community Peace Education Program, and the volunteer work-education projects in which a thousand and more young people participate yearly.

At present a great deal of effort is being put into the emergency project of aiding the Hungarian refugees. The original fund projected for this purpose was \$100,000. This has been increased to \$250,000.

The Quakers stressed that in giving this assistance they have no political objectives nor do they assume to pass judgment on the recent events in that country. For them it is enough that the refugees—whatever their past—are human beings in utter need and that a large part are helpless children.



Clarence Pickett, executive secretary emeritus of the American Friends Service Committee, who is now in the Orient investigating conditions.



Abby Kelly, a Quaker, defied public opinion to appear on platforms speaking against slavery. She joined Frederick Douglass on his first speaking tours in favor of abolition.

fitter, took the floor to assure fellow legislators from rural areas, "We are not going to organize your plow-hands." "Plow-hands" is an insult to the colored and white workers who tend and operate the intricate machines which—after the years of back-breaking toil—now plow, plant, cultivate, pick and process. Especially enraging when it results in bottling up their budding unions, including and especially the valiant Packinghouse Workers who have never knuckled under to segregation.

★
STATE LEADERS claim their two-year campaign, leading to "repeal" (they avoid mentioning re-enactment), cleared the state legislature of all but a few of those who had voted for the scab law in 1954. But look what a 1956 legislature

they got! In addition to 48 constitutional amendments, largely pork-barrel and in the main rejected by voters in November, it PASSED UNANIMOUSLY SEVENTEEN MEASURES ATTACKING THE RIGHTS OF NEGROES.

These range from exclusion of Negroes from sports, parks and classrooms, along with "interposition" (states' rights above Federal law), to an act making it a crime "to carry or own weapons or tools with intent to commit a crime." This could jail anyone with a pliers or a jack in his car.

Though rank and filers, and a few honest officials, agree heatedly that the scab re-enactment was "a dirty rotten deal" (as a Baton

Rouge official stated), I haven't heard one word of official protest from state AFL-CIO leaders on the racist, anti-union measures of the legislators they'd endorsed. Not even on the Right-to-Work re-enactment—only hosannas for their own smart work.

Smart indeed—for the boss. There's big open-shop money in "protecting" workers from the "levelling" effects of unions. The hosannas don't mention that Sen. W. M. Rainach, chief 1954 sponsor of Right-to-Work, still holds office—Rainach, who heads the joint Senate-House committee for segregation and the Louisiana White Citizens councils as well.

—WALTER ROGERS.

What Can Help Our School Crisis?

A Teacher: 'Intelligence, Talent, Imagination'

(The views presented here are excerpts taken from an article by an elementary school teacher which appeared in a Texas newspaper.)

THE SHORTAGE of teachers and schoolhouses is being played up in the press today, along with various other comments on teaching. There are some shortages, however, on which the press, the public, and the teaching profession are silent.

If an efficiency expert were to set foot in the administrative office of a public school, he would never get it out again; he would be bogged down. The waste of time, effort, and money is appalling. And there is another waste—the waste of intelligence and talent.

An elementary school ordered some music albums, made four copies of the order, and sent them to the administrative office on June 1. That office, which has some thirty-odd secretaries and stenographers, returned the orders to the school on Sept. 1, with the notation that the al-

bums could not be ordered because five copies of the order had not been made. . . .

★
AT A TEACHERS' convention (of all places) I heard a speaker say: "The basic skills are imagination, reasoning, and effective doing; the three R's are merely tools of the latter." In my long sojourn through education from the first grade to a point midway the Ph.D., plus 20 years of school teaching, I have met hundreds of teachers, principals, superintendents, and, in the later years since they came into vogue, supervisors, consultants and curriculum directors.

I have noticed a singular lack of imagination, reasoning, and effective doing in the vast majority of those representatives of the teaching profession and a resultant lack of ability to recognize those things in others.

Teaching with imagination and reason, for effective doing could go far in eliminating mob action such as we are currently experiencing. (It might help some for administrators just to

refrain from such remarks as "niggers had better not try to register today.") That kind of teaching could educate the voting public to the point where democracy could be made to work, even to prevail over corporateocracy. It might empty some cells in the prisons and insane asylums. But where is that imaginative, reasoning teaching? . . .

★
THE SHORTAGE begins with the school of education, long the country cousin in the university departments. It is common-knowledge around campuses and among discriminating teachers that the school of education has practically nothing to offer, is impossible not to get through and hasn't even an excuse for a library. "If you want to be an intellectual fraud get a Ph.D. in education," an education Ph.D. told me. How could inferior training produce even average products?

In its ebullitions over the vital pedagogical philosophy of John Dewey (which sought to

teach young folk by the democratic action of the students themselves based on research made by the students, rather than to teach by memorization of one textbook), the school of education, which did not understand the Dewey philosophy, much less know how to make it work, fell in love with itself, and inbred.

Now it is so divorced from the rest of the university that all teachers' courses are filtered through methodology. Not even teachers of English take English courses in the college of liberal arts; they take English for the English teacher in the school of education. (See the catalogue of Teachers' College of Columbia University). English for the English Teacher is not particularly challenging to the imagination, the reason, or the intellect, nor, curiously enough does it help effective teaching.

★
OUR PUBLIC is protesting. The number of articles on teaching printed in popular magazines and newspapers for the



past year mounts up to more than I have seen on the subject in my entire career. Dorothy Thompson says civilization is progressing but culture is declining, and she is echoed by many others who go even further in their denunciations. The schools are being charged with glorifying the mediocre. How could the mediocre glorify anything else?

The teaching profession is responding by "raising teacher standards." How? By requiring more education courses! The degree in library science requires 12 hours in library science and 18 hours in education. The endorsement for the teaching of English requires 24 hours of education. The teachers admit—in the teachers' lounge—that the courses they are required to take in education are meaningless and repetitious to an unbelievable degree. (Continued on Page 14)

A Businessman: 'Math, Science, Business Efficiency'

By ARNOLD O. BECKMAN

Dr. Beckman is president of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and of Beckman Instruments, Inc., and a former teacher at California Institute of Technology. What follows are excerpts from a recent address.

IN MARCH of this year the congressional Joint Committee on Atomic Energy published an authoritative and disturbing report on "Engineering and Scientific Manpower in the U.S., Western Europe and Soviet Russia." Statistics cited in this report showing the number of engineers and scientists in our country and in the Soviet Union should destroy any feeling of complacency we might have concerning the superiority of the U. S. in science and technology.

In 1950 there were 28,000 engineering degrees awarded in Russia. In 1954, the number had nearly doubled, being 53,000. For 1955 the number is estimated at 63,000—a figure to be compared with only 23,000 simi-

lar degrees for the U. S.!

Over the last five years we have turned out only 142,000 engineers, compared to an estimated 216,000 in Russia.

★
WHY HAS our country failed to provide the number of technical graduates it needs? With a current need of 35,000 to 50,000 new engineers per year, why have our schools provided only little over 22,000 each year for the past two years? In my opinion, the blame rests squarely on our public education system—especially at the high school and elementary levels.

In what ways has our education system failed? First, it has failed to anticipate and prepare for the steadily increasing need for more scientists and engineers. An essential function in any big business is to forecast future needs for its products and to anticipate, and be prepared for, changes in its output to meet the changing needs of the times. We should not forget that education is big business.

Of the 1.8 billion-dollar 1955-56 California state budget, 38



percent, or \$748,000,000 is for education. This is big business, and we, as taxpayers, have a right to expect that our public-education business will be operated as efficiently as other businesses.

Over the past two or three decades there has been a marked decline in the number of students required to take subjects such as mathematics, physics and chemistry.

At the beginning of the century, 1 in every 5 high school students studied physics; today only 1 out of about 25 throughout the nation. In place of basic courses in mathematics and science, students have been permitted to choose elective courses

which fail to provide an adequate foundation for college work in any field of engineering or science.

THE ALARMING spread of teacher incompetence throughout our public school system reflects the powerful influence of teachers' college and certain teacher organizations which have succeeded, over the years, in establishing regulations and practices which may be to their interests but are not necessarily beneficial to education.

The teachers' tenure system should be investigated. The tenure plan was instituted, I understand, as a method of taking politics out of teaching. A teacher with three years' full-time teaching acquires tenure status. This means that, thereafter, it is virtually impossible to discharge a teacher, except for very grave charges.

In the May, 1956, issue of the "Tax Digest," E. Maxwell Benton, educational counselor for the California Taxpayers Association, states: "Considerable criticism is developing of teacher-salary schedules which use only

the two yardsticks, college training and teaching experience, for determining salaries."

He quotes the "American School Board Journal," May, 1954: "Union protection, automatic increments, indefinite tenure—these safeguards attract a certain type of person into the teaching profession. True leaders, people who 'have it on the ball' do not search for positions offering such safeguards."

Much subject matter of today's elementary and high-school curricula could be eliminated advantageously. There is a great deal of educational rubbish and scholastic trivia in our present curricula.

We should ask, "What knowledge, what training, what skills does the youth of today need to prepare him best for the problems he will encounter in his lifetime?"

In these remarks I have stressed certain weaknesses and shortcomings of our public education system. I have deliberately refrained from discussing the good features, and there are many. . . .

A Trade Union Leader: 'A Federal Aid Program'

(Following is an abstract of remarks from a speech by Walter Reuther, a vice president of the AFL-CIO, before the National Council for the Social Studies of the National Education Association in Cleveland, Nov. 3, 1956.)

"The American educational crisis is of national proportions and of international significance for the survival of democracy, in a world where Communism seeks to dominate men's minds as the surest means to subvert men's freedom.

"We have suffered the national school crisis passively for several years. All of us have heard again and again, in conference after conference, of the national deficit of classrooms, the national shortage of teachers, scientists, and technicians, the national neglect of gifted children, the appalling waste of untapped skills and learning capacity beginning in the primary grades.

"We know that we are in trouble because we aren't using our brains. We are in trouble and as a free society we shall remain in trouble so long as we



are more concerned with the condition of our plumbing than with the adequacy of our educational system. We live with a sense of guilt because we know we are spending more money on comic books every year than we spend for text books used in all our elementary and secondary schools.

"We have been told by all manner of experts, most recently by the California Institute of Technology, that the 'critical limiting factor on the world's resources is not materials, energy or food but brain power.'"

"Yet 60 percent of the best students graduating from our high schools do not go on to college, a loss of talent to the nation amounting to 250,000 students a year. . . .

"We know that we have long since reached the point of diminishing returns in the use of the local property tax to finance the schools and pay our teachers. . . .

"We know the demand upon our schools, and we know in our hearts that local sources of revenue are unequal to the challenge of crowded classrooms, part-time schools, over-worked and under-paid teachers, and harried administrators. . . .

"We know that there is no fundamental conflict between democratic principle and our educational needs. We can and must have adequate Federal aid without Federal controls. . . .

★
"I PROPOSE that we commit ourselves to a Federal program in the amount of from 1% to 2 percent of our gross national product for the next five years. Such a program could accomplish these ends:

1. To start construction and bring to completion at the earliest possible date new schools to provide adequate classroom space to overcome our present deficit of 300,000 classrooms and to meet future needs.
2. To provide immediate sub-

stantial increases in the salaries of teachers so that teachers will be compensated in proportion to their training and their responsibilities. Adequate teachers' salaries will attract more people to the teaching profession.

3. Establish a comprehensive Federal scholarship program, whose recipients would form a trained manpower reserve and serve where needed in lieu of military service, on the basis of an equal period for work overseas, an additional year for service at home as teachers or technicians.

4. Cooperation between Federal, State and local educational authorities for the creation and implementation of a special program to realistically deal with the problem and the promise of specifically gifted children and students to ensure their maximum growth and development.

5. Cooperation between Federal, State and local school authorities and private industry in working out a program that will reduce the pirating of teachers by private industry and the perfection of an agreement between industry and our schools whereby persons employed by private industry and government whose

training and experience equip them to teach can be made available on a loan basis to help supplement teaching personnel until such time as the teacher shortage can be overcome.

★
"IF THE AMERICAN economy is fully mobilized and we, in truth, achieve full employment and full production, the cost of this program can be met without difficulty. Since the middle of 1953, our economy has failed to expand at the rate proved to be possible from the beginning of 1950 to that time. Because of that failure to expand, the nation has lost \$86 billion in potential output. This is more than twice the total five-year cost of the educational program proposed above.

"We can afford this program. We cannot afford not to have such a program. If we lack the enterprise and the confidence in ourselves and the vitality of our institutions to make such a response to the current educational crisis, how can we hope to become masters rather than slaves of the new material environment promised by automation, and the peaceful uses of atomic energy?"

TV VIEWS

Unfinished Mysteries

By BEN LEVINE

IN THE manner of the old gentlemen who write to the Times about the first Robin of Spring, I feel compelled to report on my first Noel this Christmas season. It was on Ed Sullivan's program two weeks ago that I heard the carol, sung sweetly by the Little Gaelic Singers of Ireland. The faces of these children were as bright as the green grass of the Emerald Isle and their voices were as smooth as fresh eggs.

Mr. Sullivan also had Kate Smith sing Ave Maria to launch the holiday season, but while Miss Smith's voice compares well with most TV vocalizers of popular songs, it suffered that night by an inevitable comparison with the melodious gaiety of the little Gaelic girls.

The loud applause that greeted Kate Smith's Ave Maria was chilled somewhat when Mr. Sullivan gently reproved the profane praise with the comment that he sometimes thinks a song so sacred should be followed by a reverent silence.

It seemed to me, however, that St. Edward was in this instance more sanctimonious than saintly, particularly since, with the echo of Ave Maria still lingering, Edward, the scowling friar, suddenly became a commercial crier who suggested a Mercury car as a Christmas present.

THE MERCHANTS and money-changers, as we wrote last year and as practically everybody laments every year, fill the crisp Christmas air and the public places with their holiday hawking, loudly advising us it is better to give while they receive.

When the United Nations observed Human Rights Day with a concert by the Vienna Philharmonic, one would have expected that at least on that occasion the commercials would make a bow in the direction of human rights and curb their habit of elbowing into the middle of programs. But the UN concert itself was invaded by an arthritis pill peddler while Carl Schuricht and his musicians played the first part of Beethoven's 7th Symphony to the empty air on Channel 9.

Similarly the Million Dollar Movie, "Three Cases of Murder," that preceded the concert on Channel 9 was cluttered with commercials, with a young lady barker interrupting a tense mystery moment to bark the praises of Rival Dog Food.

Yet no amount of gaudy huckstering can quite spoil the Christmas spirit, and I am always swept off my feet by the crowds of gift purchasers, going along with them to bring home bright packages of foredoomed disappointments.

THE WINDS OF YULE have twisted even the present column off its course.

I had intended to write about TV mystery stories, having read an announcement that Omnibus would put on a show called "The Fine Art of Murder," with three celebrated detectives giving three solutions to a single crime.

I had also noted the Million Dollar "Three Cases of Murder" scheduled for the following day.

Christmas caught me, however, and threatened to disrupt my schedule. But I reasoned that mystery stories are not as irrelevant to the present season as it would seem, for there is plenty of mystery in the misty origins of Christmas and in the Christmas legends. The holiday has been traced by scholars to the feasts of the Babylonians, the Persian sun worship, the Greek festival of Kronos, the Hebrew

Feast of Lights (Chanukah), and the Roman Saturnalia.

The result has been a strange blend of red and green and blue and gold pictures of Santa Claus and the Holy Child, with historical science engaged in an eternally futile effort to separate the solemn sheep of fact from the gay goats of fable.

Research only deepens the mystery, but makes it more fascinating, and this thought leads me to the theme I had originally planned for a discussion of TV mystery stories. I have found a way to increase my pleasure in a murder or mystery tale and also to save a little time. Just before the last chapter or the last scene I turn the TV knob off or close the book and never come back to it, leaving the unravelled plot in my head like the lovers on Keats' Grecian Urn, "forever warm, and still to be enjoyed, forever panting and forever young."

THIS METHOD would certainly have improved the Omnibus "Fine Art of Murder," for Omnibus, which generally upholds the fine arts against the barbarians, has this time let us fine artists down. The thin story collapsed under the weight of the professorial trite introduction, and the solution seemed a comically trivial product of the brains of the three famous detectives.

I recalled the time, about 10 years ago, when I took my two very young children to a Brooklyn Art Museum film.

"Let's get out of here," I heard Martin whisper to Ella as the first scene flashed on the screen. "It's an educational movie."

"The Three Cases of Murder" on the following night was better, and a comparison of the three



tales confirmed me in my view that solved mysteries may be sweet but those unsolved are sweeter. The first story was apparently suggested by the ancient Chinese tale of the artist who disappeared into his final painting. We enjoyed the skillfully evoked terror, and we didn't mind the bland failure to provide a rational explanation.

The second story was all ingenious solution and very little plot.

The third was even duller, a morsel by Somerset Maugham made particularly indigestible by a psychiatric treatment in which the explanation was successful while the story died.

AND SO I SAY, try the unfinished mystery story. Perhaps the most famous of them is Frank Stockton's "The Lady and the Tiger," whose alternate solution leaves the reader like the medieval donkey between two perfectly equal bales of hay, but the pleasure of the mystery is guaranteed to last a lifetime.

And there is Dickens' "Mystery of Edwin Drood." Death struck the author in the very act of writing it, and in the past 85 years an entire literature has grown up with different endings, giving this last novel of Dickens a fascination and a fame far beyond its deserts.

And so it is with the mystery of Christmas. The entire pageantry of the past is mingled in traditions of tenderness and gaiety, of the Nativity and Kris Kringle, that each year grows increasingly inextricable, insoluble and delightful.



Old Crogety: A Christmas Tale

By WALTER LOWENFELS

Dear Children—and grown-up - Only - If - They - Were - Once Children:

Once upon a time there was a beautiful snowy Christmas. It was full of peace on earth and good will to everyone. And all the children on earth gave a party.

And whom do you think they invited?

THE ELEPHANTS?

No!

THE BABOONS?

No!

THE SQUIRRELS?

No!

No—not even the squirrels with nuts in their paws.

Well, you'll never guess so I'll tell you.

The children invited to their Christmas-Chanukah Party nobody but poets.

And did the poets come?

My goodness! For miles and miles around—all you could see were poets—good poets, bad poets, fair to middling poets—all sorts and sizes of poets.

In fact, so many poets came to that party, that it seemed that the whole world was nothing but poets.

Because when the party was about to start, there wasn't anybody left outside anywhere!

NOT A SOUL—in Alaska, in Peru, in Hinasia and Eurasia—all over geography, not a single, solitary soul was left outside. everybody, but EVERYBODY came to the party that only poets were invited to attend.

Everybody except one old snopety, grumpy, pigeon toed, chrochety old walking-stick of a fellow, about ten billion years old.

He stayed up all night just to



THE COLOR AND JOY of holiday festivities in the East illustrated by the famous Indian artist Jamini Roy. Others are by the United Nations for the benefit of the United Nations

stay away from the party.

One little girl looked around at the happy laughing whirling crowd and said, "My goodness—everybody is here except old Crogety!"

"But he CAN'T come," the children laughed and shrieked. "He CAN'T come. He says he's not a poet!"

"Oh," said the little girl, whose name was Timsy-Tam. "That's too bad. Are you SURE Old Crogety is not a poet?"

"Oh, Yes," the children all laughed and jumped from all over creation—from Cottony and from Gooseberry, and from Turnipland—"yes, we asked him over and again, and Old Crogety said, 'No I'm NOT a poet, so I can't come to the Children's Christmas Hanukkah Party.'"

"Oh!" Timsy-Tam sighed. "Let's ask him just ONCE more."

"You can ask him," the children cried, dancing around the Christmas and the candles, and eating Cranberry Turkey and Icecream Sauce—"You can ask him. We tired of asking Old Crogety."

"I will!" said Timsy-Tam, and off she went all by herself.

IT WAS AWFUL lonesome the world—not a solitary soul around—and there on a lonesome rock, sucking his corn cob and looking like a sour apple tree was Old Crogety.

"Please," said Timsy-Tam. "Please Old Crogety, don't stay out here all by yourself—come to our party for poets."

"I can't," said Old Crogety, "I won't. I'm not a poet."

"But please," pleaded Timsy-Tam, "please be a poet and come just this once."

By ABNER W. BERRY

I CAN remember the kitchen on Christmas mornings redolent of taste tempting odors radiating from the wood-fired stove. The bouquet of brandy being stirred into brewing eggnog mixed with the aroma of coffee—in the French drip pot, and intermingled with these two was the smell of hogshead slowly roasting. In the kitchen cabinet, whose legs were moated by cans filled with water to guard against ants, were stored the layer cakes baked the day before.

Grandma sat beside the stove sipping coffee from a saucer, awaiting the stream of visitors who would yell "Merry Christmas" and be told to "Help yourself." The morning quiet was punctuated by the explosion of firecrackers and at other times by a boy who had arrived at the age of twelve trying out his 22-calibre rifle which was the standard gift of Santa to a boy of that may years.

This was the way Christmas day began in Grandma's house in Beaumont, Texas, back in 1911 and 1912. Grandma's jobs as a washerwoman could not afford many toys, but we had all the hard candies, nuts, cakes we could eat; and firecrackers were usually plentiful. But then Christmas was not for us a day to emphasize the exchange of personal gifts; it was a day looked forward to as a sort of community festival.

The Low Woods, as our community was called, a sort of dead-end ghetto with unpaved streets and no sidewalks, became one family on Christmas. There was a "Christmas gift" in every house for every person in the community, if the gift were only a good drink of bracing eggnog. For the kids there were more bags of candies, fruit and cakes, and sometimes firecrackers. And for everybody there was a table full of food in every house.

CHRISTMAS IN LOW WOODS was a time when the tradition and the spirit of the community was reaffirmed. For every family, or almost every family, who lived there had originated just one generation past as homesteaders from Louisiana, Alabama, or from an older Texas settlement.

The homesteaders had built their homes cooperatively, everyone pitching in to build first one home and then another after work in the saw mills, oil refineries and other occupations. And in many instances furnishings for the homes were made the same way. While the men hammered and sawed and lifted joists into place, the women organized quilting "bees," utilizing just about every inch of scrap clothing and odds and ends of cloth to cover the "store-bought" cotton wadding. I was filled with childish wonder at the manner in which these cloth scraps were arranged into the most beautiful and becoming designs as the women sewed and drank coffee and talked.

ON THE WAY

Christmas in Low

Somewhere back in the prehistory of man large social groups must have sustained themselves against the caprices of nature just such acts of cooperation as these Negro families who satisfied their search for land ownership in this little corner of Beaumont, Texas, called "Low Woods."

My grandparents and the neighbors were almost untouched by the commercial spirit which was then becoming dominant throughout the nation. Christmas happiness for them did not depend upon the amount or the cost of the gifts they received. They knew they would have their neighbors and that they would be joined to them in the celebrating spirit of the day—a spirit of giving and

the day—a spirit of giving and

the day—a spirit of giving and





e for Young and Old



re suggested in these greeting cards, by Joseph Low, American, distributed children's Fund.

"NO! NO! NO!" Old Crogety roared, "I won't be a poet."

"Not even on Christmas?" Timsy-Tam begged.

"No—not even on Christmas. I'm not a poet, I won't be a poet, and I never will be a poet as long as the world lives."

And he snorted a snort, and grumbled on his corn cob cane.

Timsy-Tam saw it was hopeless. There was Old Crogety all alone in the whole world. And tears started to come into her lovely brown blue golden dark eyes.

Try as she would, she couldn't help feeling sad for poor Old Crogety, all alone on Christmas.

WHILE SHE WAS walking down the lonesome world, back to the Happy Party, she sobbed quietly in the snow, and her tear

drops fell and froze into the loveliest snowballs.

And then she heard, in the great cold quiet of the lonesome world, as she walked slowly back to the gay party, she heard a voice—

"Timsy-Tam!"

"Yes?" She turned and there was OLD CROGETY. "Yes," she sobbed, looking at him with tears pouring from her golden brown, blue dark eyes, "what is it?"

Old Crogety poked and looked at Timsy-Tam, crying on Christmas day, and the tears pouring down her cheeks and falling and freezing into rainbow colored snowballs.

"Timsy-Tam," Old Crogety said, "I AM a poet, and I AM coming to the Christmas Party."

"Oh, that's wonderful!" And Timsy-Tam beamed. The tears chased away from her eyes, and she smiled a gleaming sun-beam. She took Old Crogety by the arm, and they returned to the laughing jolly happy party.

For even Old Crogety, the sourest person in all the world, couldn't bear to see little girl crying on Christmas day.

And do you know the happiest part of this very, very, VERY true Christmas story?

"No! TELL US!" all the children in the world cried out, laughing. Old Crogety wasn't lying at all! He was telling the truth!

He WAS A POET all the time. He was just so lonely he didn't want to admit it. When he got to the Children's Party, he kept all the children up twice past their bedtime telling them the most beautiful stories and poems.

Then the children knew that EVERYBODY in the world—even Old Crogety—was a poet. Even if they had to be forced to admit it! And they all lived happily forever after.

piers. The streets of Low Woods, whose muddy ruts have often kissed my bare feet, now have hard tops and are trod by youngsters wearing shoes.

I am sure that the spirit of Christmas has not advanced from the days when "Christmas gift!" was shouted in every kitchen and answered with gifts of food and eggnog. But the spirit lives. Even when distorted by commercialism, the underlying meaning of Christmas comes through.

And I think that in looking back at how things were, the image of what things can be is projected. Merry Christmas!

A PENETRATING NOVEL FOR TODAY

A Season of Fear

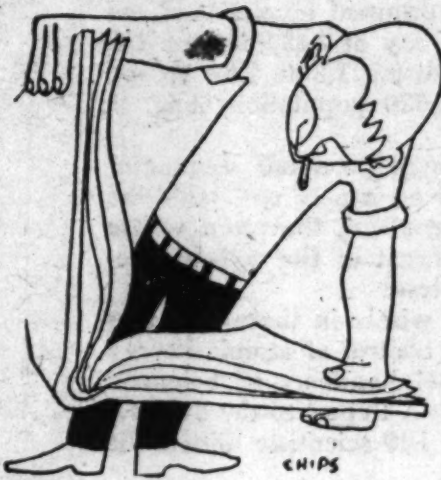
A SEASON OF FEAR, by Abraham Polonsky. Cameron Associates, 224 pp. \$3.50.

THIS NOVEL tells the story of an American who is captured by fear when his industry, a public waterworks in California, heads pell-mell into a loyalty probe. Charles Hare, the protagonist, is an able engineer who is in love with his work, his wife, his children. He is a tall, handsome, thinking man, sensitive and engaging of personality respected by his friends and associates. Like many technicians he is so involved in his work that he has little or no concern for politics. At the outset and throughout much of the book he appears unable to understand the relationship between personal morality and public responsibility.

A fatal skeleton hangs in the family closet. His wife's brother who was killed in World War II had, at one time, participated in the work of a youth organization which today is labelled subversive. The lad had compiled a small library of Marxist works and because his sister—Mrs. Hare—loved her brother she had kept his effects when she moved from the East to California.

When Hare learns that the problems are nosing around his friends and acquaintances, asking questions about his late brother-in-law, he spirals down into a morass of apprehension. He steals down into the cellar one sleepless night to examine a trunk where his wife kept her brother's effects. Among the customary text books of a college student which revealed his relative's interest in history and economics, he discovered the fateful literature: pages in which the words Communism and capitalism "flamed everywhere on the page. He turned here and there in the book and these two words like a forked tongue leapt to his eyes."

POLONSKY brilliantly describes the waves of fear which engulf



this intelligent, winning American who already has something gnawing him—the fact that one of his associates, a fearless, accomplished engineer had refused, on principle, to sign the loyalty oath and had been fired. He, Hare, had signed it as a matter of no moment, a routine obligation.

But here, now, as the fatal words leaped up at him his panic grew. "The words took on a reality such as God and the Devil once had, such as God and the devil were beginning to have again as people fled back to the securities of their old religions in the face of this onslaught upon their reason. And Hare knew he was not free of it."

Indeed he is not. He is further embroiled when he brings the fateful pages he has torn up to burn in the incinerator. A friend from across the street wanders over, and unwitting—perhaps—opens the aperture and sees some fatal, tell-tale words that are hard to burn. Hare's friend is dead-pan and it was impossible for the engineer to know whether he had been detected or not.

As the story unfolds we discover that the friend is an informer, a man whom he had come to regard as morally loathsome before he realized this neighbor's perfidy.

The novel sensitively depicts the

suspensions that are engendered in the poisoned atmosphere where men are expected, to hold their jobs, to pursue their careers, to inform on their friends.

His neighbor had told the authorities of the conversation between Hare and a refugee professor, a brilliant scientist, and an investigator comes to Hare to quiz him about the talk. The engineer complies but as he does so, we discern his growing awareness of perfidy, of disgust, of horror with himself.

THE BOOK CONCLUDES with a device that falls short, at least for me, of credibility. At a beach party the informer and Hare swim out beyond the boundaries of safety; and suddenly the engineer hears his betrayer call for help.

Before Hare can decide to try to rescue the man, or allow him to drown, and realizing that they are too far out for him to successfully make the rescue, the informer goes down for the last time.

There is a certain symbolism, perhaps, in the final pages, and though the scene is done masterfully, I fear it does not achieve conviction.

Polonsky is an able story-teller; the plot swings along, carrying the reader to the conclusion. Aside from Hare, however, the other characters are not totally realized. The informer is truly a loathsome man, a latter-day Iago, tricky, mendacious, flabby in soul as he is described to be in body. But it seemed to me that Polonsky is gilding this poisonous lily.

These possible flaws are secondary to the tale itself which is told with verve and passion by a gifted artist who is repulsed by the sight of moral decay which the witch-hunt engenders. It is a book every man should read, a vivid chronicle of the most shameful aspect of our times—and, simultaneously, it describes the profound integrity in most Americans which supplies hope for the future.

—Joseph North

THE WORKER'S ALMANAC



WE HOPE the New Year, that opens next week, will be a Happy New Year. But we know that it will have many surprises. And some of those surprises will make us unhappy if we are easily upset by the latest events—or the latest New York Times headline. But we won't be easily upset if we study American history, and learn that the people's temporary defeats are always followed by victories in the end. I'm therefore suggesting a new kind of New Year's greeting. And I'm trying it out on some of my friends.

Here's the idea:

I'm enclosing some of my New Year's cards in "The People's Almanac." That's the fascinating booklet by Elizabeth Lawson, with its 365 exciting historical events.

Elizabeth's "Almanac" is celebrating its first anniversary. It came out first a year ago. But the glorious deeds it commemorates have the freshness of a 1956 strike victory.

Just look at the entries for New Year's Day, for instance. Elizabeth reminds us that Congress prohibited the importation of slaves on New Year's Day, 1908. The ban came after big people's mass movements. And old Abe Lincoln declared all slaves "forever free" in his famous Emancipation Proclamation on New Year's Day, 1863.

Then swinging back to Dec. 23 (that's today) we come to the anniversary of Tom Paine's immortal Revolutionary War pamphlet. That's Tom's first "Crisis" pamphlet that begins with these words:

"These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands it now deserves the love and thanks of man and woman."

Those words were written on a drumhead by a camp fire at night. They inspired Washington's soldiers on the banks of

the Delaware on the eve of the Battle of Trenton. They inspire me too when President Franklin D. Roosevelt read them over the radio in one of his Fireside Chats in the War against Hitler. And they give us courage in the movement for Peace and Socialism today.

The "Almanac" records many stirring Labor struggles too. Next Sunday, for instance, we can celebrate the 21st anniversary of the start of the great sit-down strike of the United Auto Workers in the GM plant at Flint, Mich. That's the strike that began the great string of Labor victories that changed American history.

A knowledge of the history of the fighting people's movements dispels fears and confusions. Elizabeth's booklet is a wonderful tonic. It can be had by contacting the author at the office of the Sunday Worker, 35 East 12 St., New York 3, or at New Century Publishers, 832 Broadway, New York, N.Y. Price: 50 cents. A. S.

Woods

ing without thought of self.

We have advanced since Grandma's day. Electric lights have replaced the kerosene lamps; the cow pasture which adjoined our house now has row upon row of oil storage tanks squatting in it; Neches River where I used to row and fish and swim is now being constantly dredged to permit ocean-going boats from the Gulf of Mexico to dock at Beaumont

More Brief Reviews Of Newer Films

By DAVE PLATT

GIANT (Warner Bros.): An angry, brilliant, hard-hitting story of three generations of a wealthy Texas cattle-raising family. Adapted from Edna Ferber's novel by the same name.

The real meat of the drama is its anger and indignation at the inferior status and impoverished working and living conditions imposed by the cattle and oil men upon the Mexican minority in the state.

Beautifully acted by James Dean, Elizabeth Taylor and Rock Hudson. It's a film of massive parties and barbecues, windstorms, exploding oil wells, cattle round-ups, weddings and funerals. But mostly it's about people.

People like Leslie Lynne who believed in equality and fought for her dignity as a woman in an environment where women were supposed to go off and quietly the men were talking politics. People like Juana, who though she was the wife of a rich cattle man was not permitted to forget that she was a wetback.

One criticism is that while giving the business to the oil tycoon the film tends to sugarcoat the crimes committed through the years by the cattle men.

It also suggests that cattle barons are doing the lion's share of the fighting for the rights of the Mexicans. One thinks of the great fight waged by the Mexican Americans in nearby New Mexico against the Empire Zine Company not

(Continued on Page 14)

Effects of Atomic Rays Reported by Scientists

In August, 1945, atomic bombs were dropped by the U. S. on Nagasaki and Hiroshima. In Hiroshima, a city of 343,969, the toll was: dead, 75,150; injured, 37,425, and missing 1,306. The second bomb, dropped on Nagasaki with its 252,630 population, Aug. 9, killed 73,884 men, women and children.

The explosions were achieved by changing a small amount of matter into energy. Thus mankind entered on a new era—with the possibilities and pitfalls opened up for harnessing the atom whose fearful power we had released—and the threat of the self-destruction of mankind growing with each bomb test.

To help our readers participate more wisely in these decisions which are still to be made on the use and control of atomic energy we are running excerpts from the National Academy of Sciences' "The Biological Effects of Atomic Radiation: A Report to the Public," released last June 12 after a committee of 100 scientists "sifted the present knowledge in the field."

(Excerpts from Part III, "The Nature of Radiation.")

WHAT IS RADIATION?

Broadly speaking, radiation is a way in which energy moves from one place to another. Thus, the energy released when a stone is dropped into water radiates away in circular waves. . . .

Here we are concerned with atomic radiation. It also transports energy, carrying it away from over energetic atoms. X-rays, the most familiar example, are waves, like light waves. . . . a light wave is about a hundred thousandth of an inch long; a medium-short X-ray, about a billionth of an inch. Another group of atomic radiations, called gamma rays, are like X-rays, but are usually still shorter. . . .

One of the major discoveries of modern physics is that the shorter the wave length of any wave radiation, the more energy each unit of it carries. . . .

In addition to waves, atoms are now known to radiate a great variety of particles. These are all unimaginably tiny (measured in 100-trillionths of an inch,) unimaginably light, and known to us only indirectly through their effects. Some of the more important particles are:

Electrons: The lightest particles, carrying a negative electric charge. Radiation electrons are sometimes called "beta rays."

Protons: About 2,000 times as heavy as electrons and positively charged.

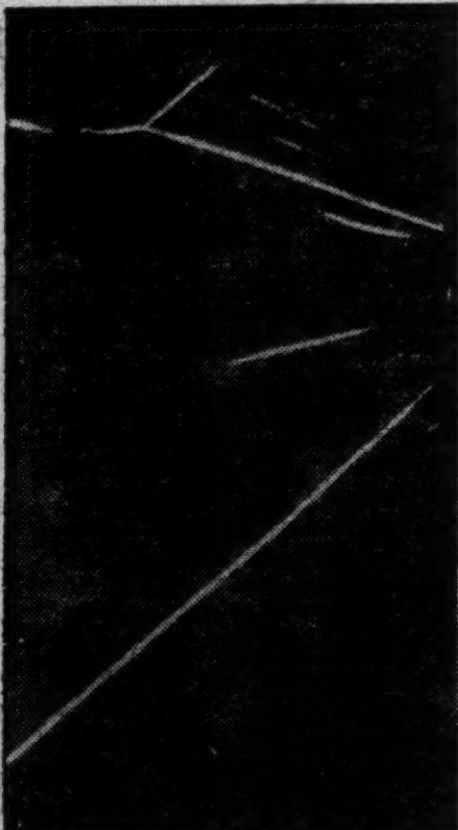
Neutrons: Like protons, but uncharged.

Alpha particles. Each one is an assemblage of two protons and two neutrons.

WHAT PRODUCES RADIATION?

Atomic radiation is given off by atoms which have more than the normal complement of energy—"excited" atoms in the physicists' phrase. . . . Every atom is composed of a tiny, positively charged "nucleus" surrounded by a cloud or swarm of negative electrons. . . .

The number of protons in a nu-



These traces show the paths of atom particles. Where the two lines meet at left of photo is where a collision took place between the nucleus of an atom and an alpha particle used to bombard it.

cleus determines the chemical properties of the atom; each element has a unique and characteristic number of protons. The number of protons and neutrons together determines the weight of the atom. Two atoms having the same number of protons but different numbers of neutrons are said to be "isotopes" of the same element.

How does an atom get "excited?" One way is to be struck by a projectile. There is nothing very mysterious about this. If a bullet strikes a metal target, energy is added to the target—it is excited. . . .

. . . The big "atom-smashing" machines one reads about are simply devices for hurling various particles against nuclei. The target nuclei then spew out radiation, including gamma rays and a great variety of particles.

ATOMS CAN BE "NATURALLY EXCITED"

Not all radiation comes from atomic collisions, however. Some atoms are naturally excited, and emit radiation spontaneously. These are the atoms of radioactive substances such as radium. The nuclei of radioactive atoms erupt from time to time, giving off alpha particles, electrons or gamma rays.

. . . The new nucleus may in turn be unstable and emit further radiation. Eventually, after a series of transmutations, every radioactive atom ends up as a stable element and stops radiating. For example the familiar radioactive elements such as radium and uranium end up as lead.

. . . The atoms are somewhat like popcorn that is just beginning to heat up—only an occasional kernel pops. . . . Those substances in which there are infrequent explosions are comparatively weak sources of radiation. . . . On the other hand, these materials have a long life—that is, it takes a long time before all their atoms have transmuted themselves into other elements. . . . Short-lived radioactive substances may exhaust themselves in minutes, seconds, even millionths of a second. Long-lived materials may remain little changed for thousands, even millions of years.

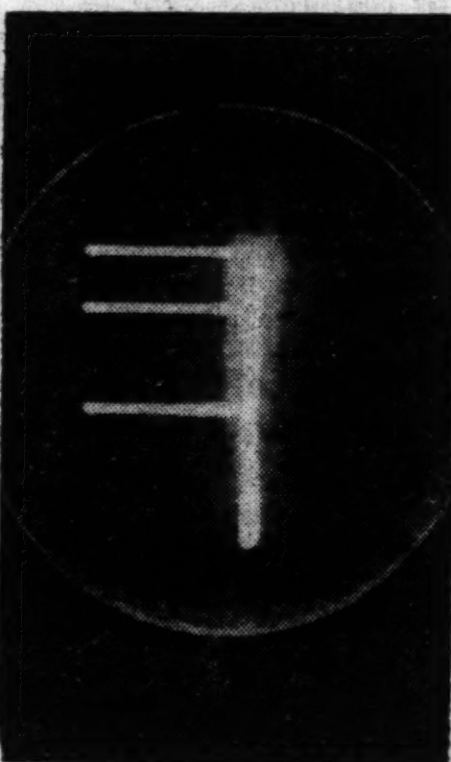
THAT TROUBLING "HALF-LIFE" IS EXPLAINED

The rate of radioactive decay is usually measured in "half-life"—the time required for half of any amount of radioactive material to transmute itself. Thus, if the half-life of a substance is one hour, half of any starting amount will be gone in an hour, half of what is left will go in the second hour, and so on. In 10 half-lives, the amount of any radioactive substance is reduced to one-tenth of one percent. . . .

When certain atomic nuclei, notably those of uranium and plutonium, are struck by neutrons, they do not radiate in the usual way. Instead, they split into two roughly equal parts and give off a large burst of energy. It is this energy that provides the explosive power of an atomic bomb, and . . . useful power in an atomic pile.

Our concern is . . . with the nuclear fragments that are produced. . . . The point is that in even the smallest bomb, or the most modest experimental nuclear reactor, there are trillions upon un-

As a simple means of illustrating its structure, the atom is usually pictured as here. Physicists have pictured it as a tiny solar system with the electrons whizzing in their orbits around the nucleus, much as planets around the sun. The nucleus of every atom contains positively charged protons and other particles like protons but uncharged—neutrons. It is surrounded by a swarm of negative electrons. When scientists learned how to release the tremendous amount of energy locked within the atom's tiny nucleus, 1 millionth of 1 millionth of the volume of the atom itself, they unleashed the great promise and threat of the atomic era.



The splitting of uranium atoms makes this pattern on the moving photographic film of an oscillograph, a device which transmits their motion in the form of reflected light rays.

counted trillions of these fragments. The fission products are invariably unstable atoms; every one of them is radioactive. . . .

The more bombs that are exploded, the more of these radioactive fragments are scattered broadcast over the earth. The more power reactors that go into operation, the more radioactive material must be disposed of. . . .

WHAT HAPPENS TO LIVING THINGS

. . . When radiating waves or particles pass through any substance, at least some of them bump into molecules. The effect may be no more than to knock a few electrons out of the molecules, or it may be more drastic. But even if just a few electrons are knocked loose, the molecules become very active chemically, and form new combinations.

Now a living cell is a marvelously delicate balance of interacting materials. Each molecule must be just what it is to play its proper role. Hence any chemical change in a cell, however slight, may have serious effects. It may substantially change the normal life processes, or even kill the cell.

When a complex organism is exposed to radiation the degree of

WHERE ARE WE NOW? American Radicalism and the Impact of Recent Soviet Developments. By A. J. MUSTE. Liberation, 110 Christopher Street, New York 14, N.Y. 15 Cents.

By A. B. MAGIL

A. J. MUSTE is the dean of American pacifists. An ordained Presbyterian minister, he was successively head of an important labor school, a leader of the unemployed struggles of the thirties, an adherent (briefly) of Trotskyism, and executive secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, of which he is now secretary emeritus. Throughout all these years he has been a socialist with a small "s."

Now in his seventies, Muste has written a fresh and vigorous pamphlet which seeks to illuminate the crucial questions of our time. He offers "Where Are We Now?" not as the last word of wisdom, but "as a contribution to current discussions." In this reviewer's opinion it is one of the most important contributions thus far made to the discussions now taking place within and among various groups of the American Left.

Muste's little pamphlet—it is only 16 pages—is a model of compression, of terse lucid writing. It contains enough ideas for a book, and some points clamor for elaboration. The author sees the present situation as a transition period in which the dominant factors are the birth of the atomic age, the H-bomb menace, the upsurge of the peoples of the underdeveloped countries, the Russian Revolution of 1917 "and the subsequent spread of Communism," together with "the crisis" in Soviet Russia and the world Communist movement.

MUSTE discusses the changes that have taken place in the USSR since the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the limitations of those changes. He lists what he thinks would still have to be done "before we could agree that the Soviet regime was a democratic socialist one."

He points out: "If democratic socialism is to be established in Russia it will have to be the will and action of the Russian people themselves. Any form of U.S. intervention in Russia (or other Communist lands) must be opposed." (Emphasis in original—A.B.M.)

At the same time the pamphlet sees the need for change in the West European Socialist parties as well. Viewing the ferment in both the Communist and Socialist movements, Muste draws the important conclusion that "the possibility of healing the split between Socialists and Communists emerges for the first time since 1919."

The rest of the pamphlet is concerned with a discussion of this possibility in American terms. The author believes "it is time to begin talking seriously about the possibility of working toward the formation of a democratic socialist 'party' or 'movement' and about steps which might be taken toward this end." He cites among favorable factors "the new developments

damage, if any, depends on which of its body cells have been affected. The more vital parts are generally some distance in from the surface. Hence radiation coming from the outside is more harmful if it can penetrate to these parts. . . . X-rays and gamma rays are very penetrating; particle radiation much less so. . . . Radiation may also originate inside the organism. (Plants may take radioactive material up from the soil, animals may eat or inhale it). If the material concentrates in or near vital tissue, its radiation need not be penetrating to be very damaging. (To Be Continued)



in the CP, suggesting at least the possibility of healing or dissipation of the split in labor and progressive forces."

He warns, however, against efforts merely to merge existing socialist groups and against premature pressure for "united action" among them. He believes that public and private discussions among individual representatives of the various socialist currents is the best way to achieve clarification that will facilitate the future emergence of a new American democratic socialist movement. Muste has himself in recent months participated in such public discussions with Communists and leaders of other socialist groups.

THE CHIEF WEAKNESS of Where Are We Now? in my opinion flows from the fact that the "we" in the title seems to refer mainly to believers in socialism. The author skips over the problems of where the American people are now and how to get them to where he'd like them to be. Missing are the main enemy, monopolistic big business, and the labor-led independent political action to combat it which may or may not eventually take the form of a labor-farmer party.

The fight for peaceful co-existence is also barely mentioned and then largely as a task of socialists and progressives in helping "the peaceful revolution toward democracy in Russia."

It seems to me that the pamphlet errs in virtually equating U.S. and Soviet foreign policy, viewing both as largely derived from heavy armaments. This is related to the fact that Muste is not ready to describe the Soviet system as socialism—he leaves this question open for discussion—though he states that in Russia "feudalism and private capitalism have been overthrown."

This pamphlet was written before the events in Hungary. What has happened there gives added urgency to the problems it poses. Both the differences Communists have with Muste and the points of agreement underscore the importance of continued discussion.

In its positive approach to the changes in the socialist countries and its emphasis on the need to build here and abroad an united movement for domestic socialism Where Are We Now? provides a constructive focus.



MY HOLIDAY BEHIND BARS

Prison Walls Did Not Dim The Spirit of Christmas

By
DOROTHY ROSE BLUMBERG

HAVING spent several holiday seasons in prison, I find that the return of the season in freedom produces some curious overtones. I walk through the glitter of tinsel and spangles, I come and go as I please—and always in the background there is the knowledge of friends and comrades who at this time will be experiencing what I was so glad to put behind me just a year and a half ago at Alderson, West Virginia.

I say put behind me, but it can never really be behind me as long as Elizabeth, Winnie, Gil, Gus, Pete, Bob and the others are free. (See box on this page for full names and addresses of political prisoners.)

I'll be able to sleep as long as I want on Christmas morning, but at 6 a.m. I'll know Elizabeth (Elizabeth Gurley Flynn) will be hearing the carolers crunch through the powdery snow outside her tightly screened window, and an hour later the warden will unlock her door and her day will begin.

There'll be a general air of relaxation on this day of no work, and after breakfast much scurrying through the halls and slipping in an out of rooms with wrapped and ribboned parcels. For the Christmas spirit does penetrate even prison walls.

I'll eat my Christmas dinner with my family and friends, and in my mind's eye see Elizabeth at her table, in company with those I know have become her friends; and in her mind's eye will be the picture of Kathy and all others she always has with her. Her table there will be decorated with sprigs of fresh green pine tied with red bows.



DOROTHY ROSE BLUMBERG

In the living room of the cottage a Christmas tree will sparkle beside the fireplace. The women will be dressed in their "best," cotton dresses starched and beautifully ironed, their faces glowing with the "Christmas look."

I THINK THAT was one of the things that impressed me most about my fellow prisoners—the common denominator of affection and need for affection that even the worst experiences couldn't quite kill. It showed itself in all sorts of ways, in the response to kindness, in sharing with and helping each other within the limits of the environment, and at this time of the year in the effort to create at least the illusion of a happier day.

The holiday season among prisoners generally is known as a "hard time." That's natural. For a few short hours the bars are down, and what was hard and defiant dissolves in waves of loneliness and longing.

We felt it too, the longing and the loneliness, but with such

a difference. For us there was the physical separation from all we loved, but beyond that, the ties of comradeship and friendship were so strong, so firm, and real they seemed to transcend the other reality.

Their tangible expression was the constant stream of greeting cards that swelled to a torrent at such times as this—and was the wonder and admiration of the institution—as well as the full quota of letters and regular visits we received.

THERE WAS MORE. I'll never forget the day I came back from work, picked up my New York Times and read that the day before the Supreme Court had outlawed segregation in the public schools. What a surge of triumph then! I wasn't tired any more, and I certainly wasn't alone!

Then there was the day the Senate voted censure of McCarthy! Yes, many of us were in prison that very minute because of McCarthy and others like him, but that wasn't the important thing. What really mattered was that this was a nodal point in American history, the beginning of the people's long, slow climb back to the democratic highway.

Just as I did then, I can imagine our imprisoned comrades now following national and world events with the same keen sense of identification. It is this sense of identification that perhaps most colors our relationship as prisoners. Because of it, we can maintain poise and serenity even under the most trying circumstances.

It's always a particular responsibility to be a Communist among non-Communists, even in prison. To me, that responsibility

was my surest defense against the thousands constant barbs and pressures.

But above and beyond even that was the knowledge that "outside" there was a Communist Party whose ranks I would one day rejoin. Often after lights-out and before I fell asleep, I'd run through in my mind my years in the progressive movement—the Scottsboro March to

Washington in 1933, the anti-Nazi demonstrations, the Wednesday nights at the Baltimore Federation of Labor, the Dies Committee raid on the Party office and the night the Klan burnt a cross in front of our house—an association which led by most logical progression, based on earnest conviction, to my present beliefs.

And behind my locked door, as I am sure behind the locks and bars of our other imprisoned comrades, there was a sense of triumph. It was a triumph seeded and nurtured in confidence in our Party, in the working class, the Negro people's and progressive movements—in the future.

This confidence smoothed my path in prison. It is my same confidence that "Merry Christmas! Peaceful, Happy New Year!" will one day be an unshakeable reality for all the peoples of the earth.



ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN



MRS. ROSA LEE INGRAM

Send Holiday Greetings to Those in Jails

Christmas greetings to Smith Act prisoners and other victims of the cold war can be sent to the following addresses. Those listed after Henry Winston were not convicted under the Smith Act.

Alexander Bittelman
PMB 75675
Atlanta, Ga.

Elizabeth G. Flynn
Box A
Alderson, West Va.

Gil Green
PMB 73335
Leavenworth, Kansas

Gus Hall
PMB 68051
Leavenworth, Kansas

V. J. Jerome
PMB 12594
Danbury, Conn.

Arnold Johnson
PMB 23518
Petersburg, Va.

Pettis Perry
PMB 11153
Danbury, Conn.

Robert Thompson
PMB 74236
Atlanta, Ga.

Louis Weinstock
PMB 11316
Danbury, Conn.

Henry Winston
PMB 13318
Terre Haute, Ind.

Mrs. Rose Lee Ingram
Reidsville Penitentiary
Reidsville, Ga.

Miss Marie Richardson
Box A
Alderson, West Va.

Morton Sobell
PMB 996
Alcatraz, Calif.

Wesley Robert Wells
Box 24155
State of Calif. Medical Center
Vacaville, Calif.



GUS HALL

Some Facts to Know About Allergies

ALLERGY is one of the broadest concepts in modern medicine. It embraces a number of the commonest diseases—eczema, asthma, hay fever, hives—and plays an important role in many others including rheumatic fever, nephritis, and tuberculosis.

DEFINITION: Allergy means an altered or abnormal reaction by one person to a substance which would not trouble the majority of people.

For example most people living in the East and Middle West think of Fall as the season of many colored leaves, but for the person allergic to ragweed, mid-August to the first frost when the ragweed pollinates is the season of violent sneezing and perhaps disabling bronchial asthma.

What is the common factor which unites the apparently unrelated diseases listed above? Basically, it is an aberration or perversion of one of the body's vital processes, namely, the immune mechanism.

It is well known that a person who has had measles or smallpox or whooping cough will not ordinarily suffer again from the same disease. His system has produced myriads of microscopic "antibodies" against the bacteria or virus which caused the given disease. Should his body be challenged by the same germ again, these antibodies will combine with the invading organism and destroy it.

However, in the allergic individual this immune mechanism is perverted so that he produces abnormal antibodies to normal substances in his environment.



Let us take the example of a man who has become allergic to house dust. If he remains for an adequate time in a room with an adequate dust concentration, he will probably begin to sneeze or wheeze or both.

IF HE SNEEZES, we say he has hay fever, and the main concentration of his abnormal antibodies against dust is in the lining of his nose. If he wheezes habitually under such circumstances, we say that he has bronchial asthma and that he has a high concentration of dust antibodies in his bronchial tube. When dust combines with these antibodies it causes an irritative reaction and partial obstruction of the bronchial air passages.

In the case of hives, the allergic reaction occurs primarily in the skin producing typical white lumps on a base of red, irritating skin. The whole is agonizingly itching. The sufferer

with urticaria (hives) is often allergic to one or more foods.

THE ALLERGIC TRAIT is said to be inherited. However, the manifestations of this trait are extremely variable both to kind of disease and intensity. One individual may have eczema as an infant which is induced by cow's milk, wheat, eggs, or other common foods.

But the eczema and his food intolerance may subside around his first birthday, to be replaced in childhood by asthma precipitated by foods, pollens, or even emotional factors, infections, or fatigue. Later, hay fever may enter the picture. Another individual may have only one of these diseases, and that either briefly or all his life.

EXTREME variability also characterizes the substances to which a given person may be allergic at various times. In general, the important substances are one he is in contact with commonly or in high concentration.

Thus it is common to see a patient come away from the "ragweed belt" to California hoping to obtain relief from his hay fever or asthma. He will probably feel better for several years. Then he may develop his



old symptoms with this difference; instead of intense suffering for six weeks in the fall, he may have milder symptoms most of the year. He has become allergic to the local plant life which pollinates almost all year around.

The allergy patient's symptom also vary from day to day and hour to hour depending on his general health, nutrition, amount of fatigue and type of emotional stress.

ALLERGY treatment varies from nothing—in the mildest cases—to a combination of several approaches in the most severe. In serious cases, it is important to know what substances induce allergic symptoms.

A suspected food allergy may be withheld and then reintroduced into the diet to see its effects on symptoms. Finally skin tests may be done in which minute quantities of numerous separate substances are introduced into the skin to see which ones produce a local reaction.

THE TYPES of allergy treatment fall into several categories:

1) Avoidance of known allergens—as removing feather pillows and dust-catching drapes and rugs from the bedroom when dust and feathers are factors.

2) Desensitization by periodic injection of minute amounts of substances to which the individual is allergic.

3) Various medications. It should be stated before closing that a different type of allergy—namely sensitivity of organs to particular bacteria—plays a decisive role in the course of tuberculosis and other infectious diseases.



The Worker Sports



'Batting 4th for Giants, Jackie Robinson...'

By LESTER RODNEY

IT WILL be one strange moment next April at Ebbets Field when announcer Tex Rickards intones in his usual stilted flatness "Batting fourth for the Giants . . . Jackie Robinson, first base" and the familiar figure of the most famous Brooklyn Dodger player in history walks in unfamiliar gray uniform toward the plate. He will be coming from the third base, or visiting side for the first time at Ebbets Field, and will step right into the batters' box on that side without walking across the plate as he did for ten years, coming from the home team first base side.

Many thoughts will be going through his mind as he scrapes the dirt, cocks his bat high and looks toward the pitcher. Roy Campanella, putting up the big mitt and signalling for the first pitch, will be musing about the strange turn of things, out at short Pee-wee Reese will be pawing gently at the dirt with the top of his spikes and patting his glove . . . and also thinking a few things . . . but none of them will be able to hear themselves think, for the people in the grandstands will be on their feet cheering as loud as they can.

This will be the dramatic moment recorded by TV, radio, and the writers in the pressbox. Actually long before Robinson steps to bat, he will have visited with his former teammates down under the stands away from the fans' view, 'chatting, laughing, exchanging anecdotes about the trade. There will be, kidding banter by Campanella, Reese, Erskine and Hodges about how good the Dodgers will be without such an old fat man, a reply by Robinson about how helpless they will be before Giant pitching now that Jackie will be telling their real deepdown weaknesses . . . and the real thing, of course, will be deep affection and respect and best wishes all around.

FANS ARE STILL asking "what were the angles?" They know Babe Ruth went from Yanks to the Braves, Ty Cobb from the Tigers to the A's, Tris Speaker from the Indians to the Senators, Dazzy Vance from the Dodgers to the Cards, Rogers Hornsby from the Cards to the Giants, Frankie Frisch from the Giants to the Cards, Freddie Fitzsimmons from the Giants to the Dodgers, Jimmy Foxx from the A's to the Red Sox, Paul Waner from the Pirates to the Dodgers, Hank Greenberg from the Tigers to the Pirates, Dizzy Dean from the Cards to the Cubs and so on. Baseball owners are not sentimental. And yet . . . Jackie Robinson to the Giants.

Part of it is the stock of any great player who has been solely identified with one team being suddenly sent off to another, without the player or the fans who pay the freight having anything to do with it. And at least part of the jolt is the special fact that Jackie Robinson of the Dodgers is a figure for history, the first Negro to break the jim-crow barriers, the most exciting and meaningful sports figure of his time, and a player who CREATED a whole lot of big league baseball fans where there were none before.

From the Dodger front office angle, this much is easy, with-

out any guessing needed. It's a smart money deal for them. They have a rebuilding process to start, with fine young players like Charley Neale and Humberto Fernandez, much sought after by other teams, pressing to get into the infield alignment, Jim Gentile about ready at first and Don Demeter in the outfield. They "unload" their oldest player, who will be 38 on January 31st, and in one fell swoop unload a \$35,000 salary, pick up \$35,000 cash from the Giants, and stand to gain handsomely at the boxoffice in a rejuvenation of fan interest in the staggering Giants, with whom they play 22 games in Brooklyn at the Polo Grounds.

They may have some uneasiness missing Robinson's exceptional qualities, but at least feel secure in the fact that he is going to a team with no choice of winning the pennant, whereas if they sold him to the Braves, Reds or Cards they could be dealing off the missing pennant element.

FROM THE GIANTS' point of view? That's easy. Any fan can answer it. The Giants need players. They needed plenty even before the Army took promising first baseman Bill White to the Army, as well as outfielder of the future Jackie Brandt, and a promising slugging rookie from Minneapolis, Willie Kirkland, Jackie will fill a big hole at first base—easiest position on the legs of a 38 year old—and a big hole in the batting order behind Willie Mays. He'll help shore up the club against a complete collapse, and with the expected revival of Mays, a good Robinson year could even give the club a run for the first division.

And no matter how piously the Giant front office denies it, another strong angle is the hope of a pickup in the lagging Polo Grounds attendance, and specifically the old lucrative full houses for Dodger visits. At least for a while, the intriguing presence of Jackie Robinson in the lineup with young Willie Mays is bound to stimulate more interest at the old Harlem ball yard.

By the way, as a sharp pull hitter, he loves the Polo Grounds, hit .394 there last year!

How important was the 37 year old Robinson to the Dodgers last year? Tom Sheehan, chief Giant scout, and a very jubilant man over the acquisition of Jackie, says "You can't judge him by the figures alone. He is the competitor of competitors. The Dodgers could not have won the 1956 pennant without Robinson at third base".

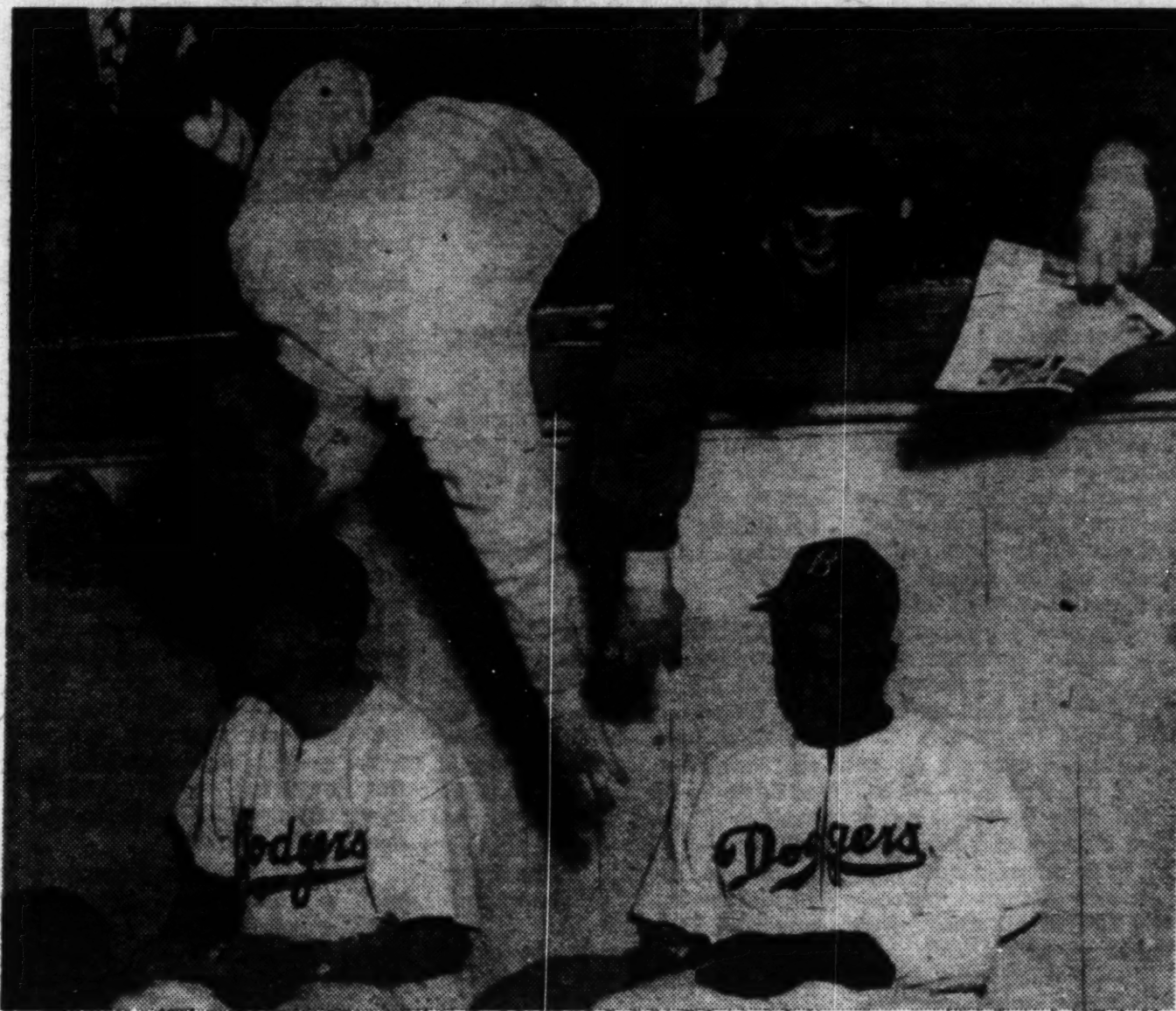
It is an estimate easy to agree with.

"TOP COMPETITION". He has been called that often. "Clutch performer". . . .

Still fresh in the memory is his blasting double off Bob Turley's blazer in the 10th inning of the 6th game to win for Clem Labine 1-0 and send the Series into its seventh game.

In '55 when Jackie had his poorest year, was overweight and full of pains, the Dodgers came back to Ebbets Field trailing the Yanks 2 games to none and apparently out of it. It was

APRIL, 1947, EBBETS FIELD



Robinson, on aching legs, who summoned up all he had left and ignited the fire which led to the Dodgers' brilliant World Series victory. Who can forget the way he turned the tide against the Yanks by dancing off third and forcing Turley to walk Cilliam with the bases full? Rarely before has the ovation been for the man who trotted home from third. It was Jackie who rounded second tauntingly halfway to third and sped right on when the confounded Yankee leftfielder throw behind him. This set the tone of "These guys can be beat!" which is one of the intangibles Robinson gives to a ball club.

Baseball has rarely seen such a "clutch" performance as turned in by Robinson on the final day of the 1951 season. Philadelphia fans who were privileged to be at Shibe Park that day still talk about it with respectful awe. The Giants had won their game in Boston. The Dodgers had to win to force a playoff for the pennant. In the 11th inning the Phils got the bases full with two out and Ed Waitkus shot a sizzling low line drive through the box and out over center for the apparent finisher. But second baseman Robinson flashed to his right, dove headlong, and in a cloud of dust snared the ball backhanded and held it for the third out as the jarring impact momentarily knocked him out. Then he came up in the 14th and facing the league's top pitcher, Robin Roberts, blasted one into the left field seats for the winner, jogging grimly around the bases in his slightly pigeon-toed way in dirty sweatstained suit.

Incidentally, the Giants were the only team the Dodgers could have traded him to, because he made it clear he would not keep playing if traded or sold to a team out of New York, where his interests are and his family is near. Matter of fact, the Polo Grounds is a much better jump off place for getting to his smart new home in Stamford, Connecticut than was Ebbets Field.

THIS WAS opening day in Brooklyn, and the first time a Negro had ever suited up for a big league game. Fans frantic for Robinson's autograph climbed over the dugout and thrust their scoreboards in for the rookie. At this time Robinson was 28 years old. Baseball people

and sports writers have often wondered what kind of record he would have in the books now if he had come up around 20 years old, like Mantle, Mays, Musial and others, without having banged up his legs in four years of college football at UCLA, as well as basketball and track.

Jackie A Militant Fighter

One more thing which should be noted about Jackie Robinson as he leaves the scene of his historic triumphs. The man was not just one who "happened to be" the first Negro player, but one who has been and remains a conscious, outspoken, fighter for Negro rights.

This very summer I recall chatting with him in the Dodger dugout about the letter he had sent to league president Warren Giles asking an explanation of how he was fined \$50 for something he knew other players weren't fined for.

"I don't expect an answer," he said grimly, "But at least the man knows what I think of him Now why doesn't he answer the accusation I make, unless he's in the wrong and knows it?"

The accusation was one of "special" treatment, not new between Robinson and Giles. Once

before Jackie had been singled out for a rap, and Giles eventually had to eat crow publicly at Ebbets Field on that one.

Militance for democracy is not a new thing for Robinson. Three weeks after the Daily Worker led a group of three Negro players to a Dodger tryout, the first such in history, Robinson and two other Negro players got the idea and walked in on the Boston Red Sox asking a trial. (The Sox gulped and ran after a fake "trial"). In his autobiography Robinson pays tribute to this "spadework."

He stood up and fought as a normal fighting type of player once the agreement with Branch Rickey to "take it" expired. And when he was criticized, he didn't hesitate to ask how come that aggressive white players like

(Continued on Page 13)

We Pick Bears

We know the Giants outplayed the Bears in that 17-17 tie last month, and held the awesome Rick Cesares to a net of 13 yards. But that was when they had just lost "the new Bud-dy Young," Perry Jeter, and had no outside running threat. As you may have seen over TV as they decimated Detroit last week, rookie J. C. Caroline is now flashing his speed in the attacking unit as well as defense, and Bobby Watkins, the quick soph from Ohio State, is back in action. Which opens things up

for Cesares and makes the long passes to the inimitable Harlon Hill all the more dangerous.

The Worker picks the Bears on this great offense, even though we can't see the Bear defense stopping the finest pair of running halfbacks in the league, Gifford and Webster, plus the former's option passing threat, the improved passing of Heinrich and Conerly, and that clutch performer Kyle Rote. (The Daily Worker's Roosevelt Ward Jr. however is a Giant fan, setting up a Worker vs. Daily finals!)

NEXT WEEK . . .

Final notes, sour and otherwise, on the Olympics, in next week's Worker. The Jackie Robinson story had to take precedence over everything. Plus other sport topics.

THE HOLIDAY SEASON FINDS US IN NEED

(Continued from Page 1)

land receives 70 to 80 percent of its total income from advertising, a large part of it national-big business advertising.

This is naturally not available to the working class press. In our case, even small advertisers have been driven off by deliberate FBI intimidation or self-appointed vigilantes. This fact makes the workingclass press even more vital since it is free of the domination of the advertisers.

In place of advertising income, we have the voluntary, self-sacrificing efforts of our readers. These have provided just about half our income, which means our expenditures, so far this year.

IT HAS BEEN an especially tough year because of convulsions in socialist lands and the rigorous self-examination of the isolation of the Left in our land. These have caused some dislocation and inner conflict. But we believe they are crisis of growth and development and socialism will come out the stronger in the end.

STRONTIUM

(Continued from Page 1)

engineering.

The HEW spokesman was asked if any state health departments or the federal department was making tests on strontium-90 in milk, about which AEC had made public no information since Nov. 15, when it was revealed such tests had been made on samples from the New York metropolitan milkshed since early 1954.

A provocative statement in an AEC spokesman's speech at that time said a "steep increase" in strontium-90 occurred in New York milk in early September, and that if it continued it meant that the strontium-90 content in the soil was higher than previously estimated.

NO, HE SAID, the department did not have any states making such tests now, nor had it done so. "We don't know that that is any more than a research project of AEC's," he said.

He conceded, however, that scientists (such as Dr. William F. Neuman, chief of the Biochemistry section of the University of Rochester's Atomic Energy Project) were regarding the AEC revelations with concern in relation to public health.

He was asked if he knew whether anyone had answered the questions asked by Dr. William C. Cahan of the Memorial Center for Cancer and Allied Diseases, New York City, in a letter to the New York Times of Oct. 31:

"... is there a scientist who knows the exact amount of strontium-90 required to produce bone cancer in any given human being?"

The HEW spokesman replied: "There are a lot of things which need to be answered. Some of the answers will have to come from the laboratory. Some of the answers will have to come from epidemiology—the study of everyone to be affected. In other words, just the fact that someone gets cancer does not necessarily mean it is caused by radiation."

HE AGREED there was no doubt expressed by any scientist that strontium-90 in sufficient amounts will cause cancer of the bone and leukemia, a fatal cancerous disease of the blood, but, he said, just what the level is beyond which people would be exposed to the danger is "difficult to detect."

He assured the reporter that the Department of Health, Education and Welfare was not claiming that there was no danger that that level would be reached in the event there were more bomb tests.

"But the point is that it isn't an easy matter to determine what the long range health effects will be," he said.

He bypassed a question as to whether the department was meeting with milk industry and technical men to see whether strontium-90 should be removed from the milk supply, but he said conferences of technical people were going on.

"This is being done on a mul-

Meanwhile, though, it has made our existence extremely shaky. Our \$50,000 fund campaign has bogged down and we are still \$19,000 short, though the year's end is approaching. The prospect for us on the paper is a bleak holiday, with all kinds of desperate measures needed to keep going.

The slump this past week was expected since we know our readers are hard-pressed to meet the needs of the holiday season. But expected or not, we must depend on your further sacrifice to make it possible for us to meet the heavy obligations of the year's end so we can continue to publish and improve our paper.

We urge you send your holiday gift to the paper, \$10 if you can. And we urge all subscribers to complete their \$25 booklets and send the money to us quickly.

We hear, too, that Xmas and New Year's parties have been arranged in some places to raise funds for The Worker. A swell idea and we'd urge it be picked up everywhere, with funds sent to us as quickly as possible.

Following is a list of donations received from Dec. 11 through Dec. 17:

DECEMBER 11

Bronx, \$10; Boro Park, Brooklyn, \$10; New York machinist, \$11; C.J. Brooklyn, \$20; Jamaica, L.I., \$5; D.S. New York \$10; P.R. New York, \$5; Brooklyn College student, \$2; New York, \$1; E.B. New York, \$3; P.B. Philadelphia, \$15; X.Y.Z. Manhattan Beach, Brooklyn, \$5; P.K. Oklahoma, \$2; Garment worker, \$10.50; Williamsport, Pa., \$10; Boston, \$21; A.R. New York, \$50; L.M. Croton on Hudson, \$50; Sam, Bronx, \$10; J.N.T. New York \$100; E.S. New York, \$10; Rose, Garment, \$8; Bronx friend, \$2; Scarsdale, N.Y., \$1; New York, \$1; West New York, N.J., \$1; Northport, N.Y., \$1; White Sulphur Springs, Mont., \$5; West Nassau, L.I., \$25; New York, \$10; New York, \$20; Bayside, L.I., \$10; New York, \$10; Dan, Bronxville, \$5; Philadelphia Freedom of the Press Committee, \$100; Washington Heights \$25; New Orleans, La., \$2. New Yorker, \$6; Shoe worker, \$20; Belle section, Queens, \$200; Erie, Pa., \$10; Chicago, \$7; Orange County, N.Y., \$10; Ligonie, Pa., \$10; Brooklyn, \$10; Orangeburg, N.Y., \$5; Milwaukee, \$5; Clearwater, Minn., \$3; Helen, New York, \$100; New York, \$5; New York, \$10; P.R.N. New York, \$3; Middtown, \$2; L.H. Chicago, \$1; New Yorker, \$1; New Jersey, \$43; Baltimore Freedom of the Press Committee, \$55; Brooklyn, \$2; New York, \$2; W.B. New York, \$40; New York, \$5; Brownsville youth, \$8.50; H.A.S. New York, \$10; New York, \$10; Syracuse, N.Y., \$15; Long Island, \$5; New York friend, \$10; Distributive workers, \$20.

DECEMBER 12

New York, \$10; Garment youth, \$5; Garment workers, \$12; W.N. Ithaca, N.Y., \$1; New York, \$2; Providence, R.I., \$1; New Bedford, Mass., \$1; H.P. Gloversville, N.Y., \$5; Brainerd, Minn., \$5; Utica, N.Y., \$20; Sara, Bronx, \$10; Wisconsin Freedom of the Press Committee, \$100.

DECEMBER 14

Forbes area, New York, \$15; Sea Gate \$30; Brooklyn, \$15; Williamsburg, Brooklyn, \$10; R.O. New York, \$10; Inwood area, New York, \$10; Queens readers, \$60; Electrical workers, Brooklyn, \$15; Brooklyn group to Red Roses, \$50; New York \$2; St. Louis, Mo., \$5; Deerwood, Minn., \$5; Apopka, Fla., \$10; Brooklyn, \$10; New York, \$20; Cleveland, \$10; Pawtucket, R.I., \$4.50; Bolivar, N.Y., \$2; New York State Board members, C.P. (\$10 each), \$100; Greenwich Village, \$30; Bronx \$5; New York, \$50; Queens, \$15; New York, \$8; New York, \$8; Queens professionals, \$200; East Queens, \$10; East Rochester, N.Y., \$5; Philadelphia Freedom of the Press Committee, \$150.

C.P. Statement

(Continued from Page 2)

and in the first place, the members of the Communist Party.

The loss of these papers would be a calamity for socialist-minded Americans and all others who fight for a world of peace and prosperity. The destruction of these papers can only embolden the McCarthys, the Jenners, the Eastlands and all others who speak for the most reactionary sections of monopoly capital.

The National Committee of the Communist Party views the future with hope. The great peace forces of the world, which includes the great mass of Americans, have the power to prevent an atomic holocaust. The colonial system of imperialism is crumbling beneath our eyes. Great new and irreversible forces of democratization are at work throughout the world. In our own country the labor movement and the Negro people are on the forward march. The outlines of a great anti-monopoly coalition, with labor, small farmers, and the Negro people at its very center, are already to be seen. There are stirrings among socialist-minded people in our own country which can help strengthen the Marxist press.

"In all these future developments the Daily Worker and The Worker have a tremendous role to play. They help illuminate and clarify the problems ahead. They are, in the deepest sense, indispensable weapons for the most advanced forces in America.

To build their circulation is a task to which all Communists should dedicate themselves—NOW.

REPORTER

(Continued from Page 1)

dred men lined up in a big vestibule off 33rd Street between 8th and 9th Avenues, and I went inside to investigate. It was tied with Christmas, all right, they were waiting interviews for work in the postoffice rush this week. Most seemed young, though the age varied. How, I asked one young fellow, did you know about coming here for a job today? Was there an ad, or did he know someone who told him about it?

"Oh," he said, "I thought everyone knew that the week before Christmas you got a chance to pick up some work at the post office, temporary work."

As for Christmas shopping, another put in "If you want to know about Christmas shopping, hang around. If and when I get a job here this week. . . ."

The pay averages \$1.65 an hour, \$1.50 an hour for six hours, then a 10 percent increase. "No experience whatsoever needed," grunted one waitee, "Just be able to stand up and work fast and don't slow down."

A salesman I would judge to be in his forties, with briefcase in hand, said, "Every year I say not again, no more. It takes me a week after New Years to recover. But it's nice to throw \$95 or \$100 into the pot this time of year for 60 hours work." He sighed, "When it's over I'll say again, this time for sure, never again, money isn't worth it. I mean it's no picnic. It's alright for these youngsters here, they don't mind the work. They eat it up. . . ."

AROUND ON 8th AVENUE up the huge stairs in the post-office's main building I asked a worker when the real bad busy time hit. "Today," he said, "It hit us today. Boom. See these poor guys coming back now, they haven't eaten lunch yet." It was 1.45 p.m. They were the letter (and package) carriers for the district, which runs from the East River to 5th Avenue, 25th Street to 35th. "And," grinned one of the weary returnees, "Write down that we only have time for a half-hour lunch this week instead of the usual hour."

The Christmas - spirit look about the Postoffice was supplied by a display of cheery, interesting articles made by the blind and sold for the benefit of the "Lighthouse," which helps blind people find useful work. Included was some magnificent choral work on records by the Lighthouse singers, which I am prepared to recommend. The lady in charge said "Bless Postmaster Schafer for permitting us to take this space. It helps so much and people are interested in helping."

OVER ON FIFTH AVENUE the crowds were considerably thicker. Most cheerful sight on the Avenue were the two lions in front of the Public Library. Around their massive stone necks were huge green wreaths with red ribbons. On them it looked real good. There's no commercial angle, no selling of books in the library, and it made the famed beasts look a little less stuffily regal and a little more like Disney lions, or Tarzan's friends.

The tempo definitely picked up on the Gimbels' escalator, which was one jammed place to be. But this is not the stoically endured drab crowding of the subways, but the cheerful crowding of people doing something they enjoy . . . buying gifts for others. "Santa Claus 7th, top floor," was the big sign on every floor. Huge arrows pointed the way and childhood memories mounted as the ascending elevator leaned more and more to small fry.

But it was quite disappointing when one got there. The lines of kids wound around to-

ward Ol' Santa, and when they were ushered into his presence, he promptly took them into his lap, turned their head forward, there was a flash from a camera held by a lady standing across the way, Santa handed the child a photography card with a number and bade them a cheerful goodbye.

I heard almost the exact sentiment from two mothers in different parts of the line. "It isn't like when we were kids. They used to talk to the kids a while. Now it's just an arrangement for a picture." The picture, by the way, were not for nothing. \$1.50 each, three for \$3.

Truth to tell, the real little ones didn't seem to know or care over much whether it was a business proposition or like the good old days. In fact, the popping of the flash bulb seemed to add to the moment, and they left in the same open mouthed daze as did their ancestors.

BUT, ERSATZ SANTAS, commercialism or no, the spirit of the day added up to something else. There's why-aren't-people-this-way-all-year-round spirit. "People are specially nice this week," ruminated a cabbie, "As if everyone in town had two drinks." The Christmas spirit seeps into even the reporter by osmosis, which means through the skin. At the end of a few hours you feel unaccountably good, and almost get sucked into buying a few presents yourself.

ROBINSON

(Continued from Page 12)

Leo Durocher and Ed Stanky were lauded for their fighting spirit, while he was "making trouble," "stepping out of line," etc. by being exactly the same type of scrapper.

In 1949 Robinson agreed to go before the House Un-American Committee to "counter" Paul Robeson. Against a lot of good advice, he decided to go. He didn't quite play the Un-American game, starting with a statement of opposition to jimmecrow which had Georgia chairman Rep. Woods fidgeting. Nor did he attack Robeson head on, saying that "nobody had the right to speak for 15 million Negro Americans."

One may reasonably conclude that he did a lot of thinking about the reaction to his visit, hoorahs on the phony side by people he knew were not fighters against jimmecrow, and an overwhelmingly negative reaction from the Negro people themselves, on the propriety of going before such a group to attack someone like Robeson, including a Baltimore Afro-American cartoon showing him as a little boy with a popgun in giant footsteps, labeled Paul Robeson. The caption read "Drop that popgun, Jackie."

Anyhow, a little later when Robeson was attacked by fascist-minded hoodlums at Peekskill, Robinson immediately issued a statement blasting the attackers and upholding Robeson's right to sing and talk anywhere. He insisted that the movie "The Jackie Robinson Story" not show him attacking Robeson by name.

Robinson has been in the forefront of many fights since then, both for others, like the Levittown fight, and in insisting on his own right to move into a previously white community in Stamford. He is ready to fight for his rights on or off the ballfield, as those racist ballplayers who have tried starting trouble well realize. One former enemy of his recently changed with the changing reality of our times, shook hands with Jackie, and stated publicly that "this race discrimination stuff is no good and should stop."

Jackie Robinson played no small part in effecting the change in our land which made this former racist feel he had to speak out for democracy.

Is Coffee Intoxicating? People Thought So Once

THERE'S A LOT of romance, history, geography, economics and science between the coffee bean and that cup of steaming brew so many consider essential to the right start of a bright new day.

Coffee has been so important in the affairs of the New World that it has influenced history. But it all began, so historians believe, in old-world Arabia where it grew wild. One of the first known cultivations was near Kaffa, in southwest Ethiopia, and from there it may have obtained its name. It is thought to have been discovered about 850 A.D.

At first it was surrounded with medicinal, political and religious taboos and mandates; Mohammedans considered it intoxicating. It took several hundred years before coffee gained great popularity in the English coffee houses. John Smith took it to Virginia colonies in 1607. Today the largest supplies of the world's coffee come from Central and South America, though botanically it carries the name of its country of origin; *Coffea Arabica*.

COFFEE TREES are evergreens which grow 30 feet high but are kept pruned for easier picking of the cherries which are as bright red as their fruit namesakes when ripe. The higher the altitude, up to the limit of cultivatability, the milder the product. General plantations are from 1,000 to 6,000 feet high, warm and humid and on hill-sides so the trees do not get too much tropical sun. A tree is about five years old before it starts bearing and could yield for 50 years but most are "retired" after 25 or so.

Trees are not stripped in pick-

ing; only ripe cherries are picked in each of three or more pickings. A good day's pick for one man is 125 pounds and it takes about five pounds of cherries to make one pound of beans (which are the central portion of the pithy cherries).

AFTER PICKING, the beans are hulled from the cherries, dried, then sacked. In Europe, beans are sold on the looks of the beans but on this continent bids for coffee are made on the basis of tasters' opinions of samples taken from lots.

Some can tell within 500 feet how high the altitude of the originating plantation was and in what section of what country it was located... solely by tasting the coffee.

After the coffee has been blended and shipped to area roasting plants, tasters again check the products of the roasting ovens to make certain there has not been any over-roasting or under-roasting; either of which would affect the taste of the product.

It is the roasting which gives the brown color and makes coffee taste like coffee. Green beans have little or no taste. The beans lose about 18 percent of their weight in the roasting process.

Despite the huge consumption in the U.S. which in 1955 was 2,417,012,377 pounds, U. S. is not the largest per capita consumers. That distinction goes to Denmark and the other Scandinavian countries are also great coffee-toppers. Great Britain, where coffee achieved its early eminence, ranks quite low in per-capita consumption today.

TO BLEND and roast your cup of coffee, roasters take as many as ten different types from such diverse countries as Brazil (the greatest coffee-producer of all), Colombia and Africa, clean

them and blend them proportionately according to specifications set by a purchasing office on the basis of tests by the professional tasters. The green beans are then usually shipped to regional roasting plants because, once roasted, coffee begins to lose its aroma and, consequently, its taste.

There are certain rules to be observed in making a really outstanding cup of coffee.

The first and greatest rule is: Don't guess! Measure water and coffee exactly. Only in this manner will coffee taste the same from time to time. Next, time coffee brewing accurately. Only experimentation can determine the best time for any particular apparatus. Thirdly: keep the coffee-maker scrupulously clean. Coffee oils, which turn rancid, cling to the container and should be removed with mild soap. Many advise boiling a glass container at least every two weeks with a soda solution. Metal containers should be scrubbed with steel wool and boiled with a vinegar solution from time to time.

COFFEE should never be boiled, for that drives off the aromatic substance. Bring it up to a boil but then stop, the experts advise. Then serve it right away. Never, never, reheat coffee. If it must stand, keep it at serving temperature on a low heat. If you use a vacuum-type maker, never wash the cloth filter with soap. Rinse it and keep it immersed in a container of water between uses because the oils cannot be easily washed out and if allowed to dry create a stale flavor.

If you use instant coffee, it is best prepared by using level measurements to achieve uniformity since it is a concentrated form of coffee. (From the Bakers and Confectionery Workers Bulletin.)



Coffee workers in Brazil surrounded by a mountain of the bean.

THE NEWER FILMS

(Continued from Page 9)

so long ago, which story was told in the movie 'Salt of the Earth.' Despite short comings 'Giant' towers over recent Hollywood films.

Around the world in Eighty Days (Mike Todd): Equally proportioned between adult wit and juvenile horseplay. Combines breathtaking color photography with enormous doses of hokum.

It is its best when it's unreeling one of French pioneer George Melies' priceless animated cartoons of fifty years ago, or when it's ridiculing the stuffed shirts of an exclusive millionaire's club in London and giving us those wonderful travel shots of the French countryside taken from the air and of glorious sunsets in India seen from a window of a train.

It's far from satisfying and frequently offensive in its comic strip treatment of the people of India, Hongkong, Japan and the Indians of our own land.

Cantinflas, the Mexican clown who is as well known in the southern hemisphere as Croucho Marx in ours, provides some wonderful moments in the role of Passepout, such as the trip by balloon over the French alps during which he grabs a hunk of ice from a mountain peak to cool the champagne in his glass. In a later scene Cantinflas slips out of a complicated acrobatic pyramid in which he's a key figure, turning it into a de-



MARILYN MONROE

lightful shambles.

Bus Stop: The hero (Don Murray) is a pure but brash young cowboy who sets out for the rodeo with his best friend and with just two thoughts in his head: To win every event and find himself a wife. "an angel, a real hootenanny of an angel."

The growing up of this aggressive and irritating young buck is one of the most charming things about this heart-warming movie.

Marilyn Monroe is superb as the wistful night club singer who is aching to be loved. It's a believable role and she brings to it a poignant sense of humor

WORLD OF LABOR

(Continued from Page 3)

opoly" and the leaders as the "union boss" reeking with racketeering with the workers "forced" to join and "forced" to pay dues and "forced" to strike.

Moreover, the workers are told the union "forces" them to vote in political elections a certain way and deprives them of their "freedom." That influence was demonstrated in the recent elections with victories for Eisenhower in many big cities.

LITTLE WONDER, therefore that workers influenced from this anti-labor source also support a fight on high dues, bureaucracy, high salaries for top officers, and neglect of services for the members. But one of the worst things labor leaders can do in their efforts to deal with opponents is to label them anti-union or helpers of employers, as the leaders of the steel union appears to be doing. This is a smear tactics against people who are basically honest, even if they are influenced by anti-union propaganda, and the tactic plays into the hands of the employers because it appears to justify their propaganda charges. That type of response from union officers does not encourage loyalty to the union or raise its authority on the political and legislative front.

On the other hand, the more conscious progressive people in the rank and file movement both as a duty to the union and to combat the smear tactics of the bureaucracy, should work to give the "rebellious" a positive direction. They should steer clear of anti-union shop senti-

ment or anything that echoes employer-line propaganda.

The protest movement that seems to be picking up steam in many unions these days should provide the means of educating in a union spirit the many workers who just pay dues. Most union, as is well known, with such notable exceptions like the auto union, hardly spend one percent of the dues dollar to educate the dues-payers on the full meaning of unionism. Then they wonder why so many of their members don't follow the union's advice on political and other issues.

TEACHER

(Continued from Page 7)

lievable degree, yet they trot docilely back semester after semester at the bidding of the commissioners of education for the ever changing requirements in education. Or else...

I HAVE come to the conclusion that until teaching is allowed to be a vital challenge to the intellect, until the individuality of the teacher as a free creative spirit is recognized, until teaching becomes synonymous with inspiring, only a few of our "best minds" will go into teaching, and the rest are going to bury themselves—at less than a curriculum director's pay—in obscure science laboratories, in remote archaeological excavations, in minority-view newspapers, and in like fields where imagination, reasoning, and effective doing receive their just dues.

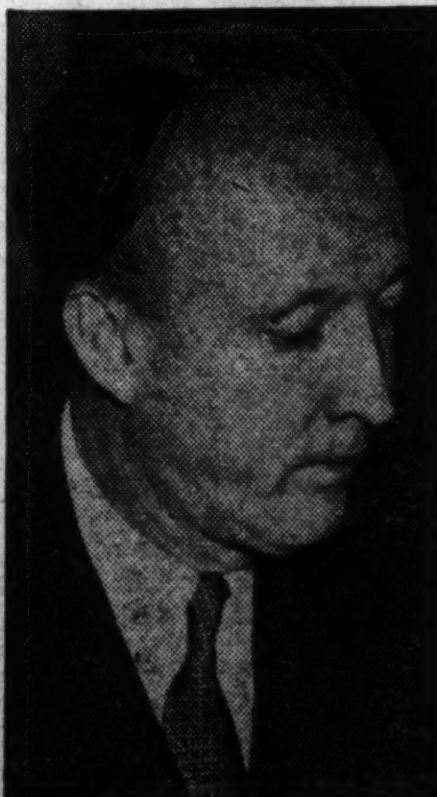
Letters to The Editor

(Continued from Page 6)

Dear Editor:

In my interview with Dr. Clark Foreman last week, as I sat in his office surrounded by messages from Einstein, Thomas Mann and others, it occurred to me that so many world figures in the civil liberties fight have died recently—that they were the "late great." By some strange process, the word "late" found itself applied to a man who is, thank God, very much alive—Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black. Please forgive me—I would certainly prefer to praise than bury him.

MILLY SALWEN.



JUSTICE HUGO BLACK

Negro Representation Increased

A RECORD NUMBER of Negroes were elected to office in 15 states this year, including Congressmen William L. Dawson of Illinois, Adam Clayton Powell of New York, and Charles Diggs of Michigan.

Three other bids or election to Congress by Negroes failed in Tuesday's election. In Cleveland, Ohio, Charles Loeb ran well but failed to amass enough strength to overtake his Democratic opponent in Ohio's 21st district. In Philadelphia, Dr. Horace Scott, a Republican, failed in his bid to unseat the Democratic incumbent; and in St. Louis, Sidney R. Redmond, also a Republican, lost by a 2-1 majority to his woman opponent.

Elsewhere in the voting, Negro candidates won seats to state legislatures in Illinois, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Ohio California, Washington, New Jersey, Michigan and Missouri. Other candidates failed to win seats in the assemblies of Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana.

Here, state by state, is a partial list of Negro winners for seats in state legislatures:

CALIFORNIA—William Byron

Rumford (D), Berkeley; Augustus F. Hawkins (D), Los Angeles.

ILLINOIS—Cornel A. Davis, James Y. Carter, Kenneth Wilson, Cecil A. Partee, Charles F. Armstrong, Richard Harewood, all Democrats. William H. Robinson, J. Horace Gardner and Elwood Graham, Republican.

INDIANA—Robert L. Brokenburr (R), Indianapolis; James S. Hunter (D), East Chicago; Jesse L. Dickinson (D), South Bend; Edward "Doc" James (D), Gary.

KANSAS—Dr. Eldred Brown (D), Kansas City.

MASSACHUSETTS—Atty. Laurence H. Banks (R); Herbert L. Jackson (R), Boston.

MISSOURI—Leroy Tyrus (D), St. Louis; James Troupe, Sr., (D), St. Louis; Henry W. Wheeler (D), St. Louis; J. McKinley Neal (D), Kansas City.

NEW YORK—James L. Watson, James C. Thomas, Mrs. Bessie Buchanan, Kenneth Phipps, Bertram Baker, all Democrats from New York City.

PENNSYLVANIA—Granville E. Jones, Susie Monroe, Samuel Floyd, Herbert Holt, Sarah Anderson, all Democrats from Philadelphia.

Conference Will Fight Denial of Seniority Rights to Rep. Powell

PHILADELPHIA. — A two-day "Ministers National Civil Rights Conference" to avert a filibuster against civil rights legislation and to support Congressman Adam Clayton Powell—who is also a clergyman—in retaining his seniority rights in Congress, will be convened in Washington, D. C., by the Baptist Ministers Conference of Greater New York, together with the Empire Baptist Convention, on Jan. 2 and 3 of the New Year.

On Jan. 3, the ministers will lead a delegation of church members and the general public, riding a special train originating in Boston, Mass. The train will pick up delegations at New Haven, Conn.; Newark, N. J.; Wilmington, Del.; Philadelphia and Baltimore and will be joined in Washington by other delegations from throughout the nation.

Arriving in Washington on the day that Congress opens, this group will concentrate on visiting their Congressmen and Senators on Capitol Hill. That night, a mammoth Civil Rights Rally will be held.

The first group of ministers will arrive in Washington on Jan. 2, the day when Democratic leaders of Congress will be meeting to make committee assignments. They will split into three groups and call upon Paul Butler, chairman of the Democratic National Committee; House Speaker, Sam Rayburn; Rep. Jere Cooper, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee; and Rep. John McCormack, House Majority leader.

In Philadelphia a young Negro attorney—Cecil Moore—announced a "March on Washington" by a number of "irate" Republicans and a few Democrats at the same time to get Powell "off the hook."

In a statement to the press Moore is quoted as saying:

"We are not going to be satisfied with merely getting the hook out of Powell's back, but we're probing into the background of Congressman Shepard of San Bernardino, Calif., one of Powell's antagonists."

"He was born in Mobile, Ala., you know," Moore added.

Congressman Shepard joined with Congressmen Walter of Pennsylvania and Celler of New York in seeking to deprive Powell of patronage rights and were instrumental in having two of Powell's Washington aides fired.

"We're going after the Senate Cloture Rule 22, too," Moore declared. "All such matters must be reckoned with. The filibuster as used by those Southern legislators is stomping out democracy."

The conference is assuming a mass character.

Phila. Group Urges Repeal of Senate Rule 22

PHILADELPHIA. — The Jewish Community Relations Council, which represents the various Jewish groups in this area, has, through the chairman of its Committee on Civil Liberties—Murray H. Shusterman—thrown its support to the proposal of a number of U. S. Senators to amend Senate Rule 22 so that a majority vote of the Senate could close debate.

The Rule requires two-thirds (64) of the entire membership to stop a filibuster under which, as the Washington staff of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette has pointed out: "Practically, it is almost impossible to get 64 votes on any controversial issue. Civil rights legislation has foundered on this cloture rule in the past Congresses."

Although the Democratic Party national election program called for a change in this Rule, that party's official leadership in the Senate is bitterly opposed.

LETTERS to the editor favoring this change in the Rule have appeared in both the Philadelphia Daily News and The Bulletin.

"The amendment to the Rule," a letter to the Bulletin points out, "would end the filibuster by which Dixiecrat Senators have been able to block all legislation that would enforce the right of all Americans to an equal voice in the selection of their President and other representatives."

"Aside from the long-continued wrong done millions of our fellow-Negro citizens in the South (and many whites there also) by refusing them the status of first-class citizens, this anomalous situation makes us hypocrites to the majority

of the people of the world, who are of a darker skin coloration than we."

Resume Merger Negotiations of AFL-CIO in Pa.

HARRISBURG. — Warned by George Meany, national head of the AFL-CIO, that the merger of all AFL and CIO councils on state and local levels must be completed by the end of next November, the special merger committee of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor and the State CIO Industrial Union Council at a meeting here have resumed their discussions.

AFL president Joseph McDonough and CIO president Harry Boyer expressed confidence the deadline would be met. It was pointed out that the 1,500,000 in the combined AFL and CIO in Pennsylvania represents about one-tenth of the total membership of those two groups in the U. S.

The State AFL Council approved the establishment of a new department which will help establish central labor bodies in localities where none exist now and will aid in the expansion of their activities.

MCDONOUGH and Earl C. Bohr, AFL secretary-treasurer, assured the representatives of the central bodies gathered together from all over the state that the new department will not "in any way . . . diminish the prerogative and identity of the individual central bodies."

These councils, they pointed out, are important as spokesmen for the labor movement in "creating favorable attitudes in the community toward unions in general . . . and in effectively dealing with economic, political and social problems on the local level."

Delegates representing union councils in 28 cities participated in the discussion. State secretary-treasurer Earl C. Bohr reported a total of 41 Central Labor Unions and 1,475 AFL locals in the state.

selective TV, movie guide

TV

SAT. DEC. 22

Mr. Wizard (4) 12:30 Noon
Right Now!—discussion (2) 1:30
Junior Town Meeting (13) 1:30
Football: Aluminum Bowl Game (2) 2
Middle America: Film of Cultural and Historical Heritage (4) 2
Pro Basketball: St. Louis-Boston (4) 2:30
Million Dollar Movie: Christmas Carol (9) 3, 7:30 and 10. Recommended
American Battle Ground (4) 4:30
Film of American Revolution in New York State
Open Mind—discussion (4) 5
World-National Report (2) 6
Christmas Program (13) 6:30
Movie: Desperate Moment (1953) (7) 7:30. Chase melodrama with Dirk Bogarde and Mai Zetterling
Jackie Gleason Show (2) 8. The Poor Soul-featured
Perry Como (4) 8. Bishop Fulton J. Sheen—guest
Confidential File (11) 8. Exceptional Children
Duffy's Tavern (11) 8:30
Basketball: St. John's-Utah (11) 9
Your Hit Parade (4) 10:30
Night Show: They Live By Night (7) 11. Better than average

TV

SUN. DEC. 23

Look Up and Live (2) 10:30 a.m.
Alan Hovhaness' Triptych—music UN in Action (2) 11
Camera Three: Part 3 on Victorian Era
Learn to Draw (5) 11:45
Let's Take A Trip (2) Noon. 15th children's holiday carnival at Museum of Modern Art

All American Game of Week: Syracuse-Maryland (11) 12:30
Times Youth Forum (5) 1. UN Children and children's choirs
Olympic Spectacular (11) 1
Face the Nation—panel discussion (2) 1:30
Profession Football: Washington Redskins-Baltimore Colts (2) 2
Youth Wants to Know (4) 2:30
Outlook—news (4) 3
Zoo Parade (4) 3:30
Johns Hopkins File 7—documentary on research (7) 3:30
Wide World (4) 4
Medical Horizons (7) 4:30
Mama—Peggy Wood (2) 5
Boing-Boing Show (2) 5:30
Meet the Press (4) 6
Frontier—Ballad of Pretty Polly (5) 6
Million Dollar Movie: Christmas Carol (9) 6, 7:30 and 10
Air Power—Roaring 20s with Art Carney, others (2) 6:30
You Asked For It (7) 7
Victory at Sea (11) 7:30
Ed Sullivan Show (2) 8
Steve Allen (4) 8
Press Conference (7) 8:30
Alcoa Hour: The Stingiest Man in Town (4) 9. Musical Suggested by a Christmas Carol by Dickens
Omnibus (7) 9. Christmas Show
\$64,000 Challenge (2) 10
What's My Line (2) 10:30
Sunday News Special (2) 11
Drew Pearson (5) 11
Movie: Holly and the Ivy (English) (2) 11:15. Ralph Richardson, Celia Johnson

RADIO

SAT. DEC. 22

Monitor, WRCA Noon to Midnight
Groucho Marx WRCA 12:30 after-noon
Metropolitan Opera: Offenbach's

Tales of Hoffman, WABC 2
Richard Tucker, others
Opera Matinee: Cilea's Adriana Lecouvreur, WNYC 4
Christmas with Armed Forces, WABC 8:05
Phila. Orchestra, WCBS 9:05. Fifth Symphony—Beethoven

RADIO

SUN. DEC. 23

NY Philharmonic—Bernstein, conducting WCBS 2:30
Radio Workshop—Story of 'Silent Night' WCBS 4:05
Suspense, WCBS 4:30. Herbert Marshall in Back for Christmas
Meet the Press, WRCA 6:35
Jack Benny, WCBS 7
Jean Shepherd Show, WOR 9:05

MOVIES

Magnificent Seven, 50th St. Guild
Secrets of Life, Sutton
Ten Commandments, Criterion
Wee Geordie, Little Carnegie
Oklahoma, Mayfair
Lust for Life, Plaza
La Strada, 52nd St. Translux
Around World in 80 Days, Rivoli
Silent World, Paris
Solid Gold Cadillac, Victoria
Seven Wonders of World—Cinema, Warner
Secrets of the Reef, Gramercy—through Monday
The King and I, 68th St. Playhouse—Through Monday
Papa, Mama, Maid and I And The Doctors (French) 72nd St. Thru Tues.
Rules of Game (Renoir) and Chaplin Festival Fifth Ave. Cinema Through Thursday.
W. C. Fields Program—two films, Thalia—Through Monday

THEATRE

The Good Woman of Setzuan, Phoenix
Candide, Martin Beck
Long Day's Journey into Night, Helen Hayes
Bells Are Ringing, Shubert
Separate Tables, Music Box
Li'l Abner, St. James
Old Vic, Winter Garden
Major Barbara, Morosco
Sleeping Prince, Coronet
Hamlet, Shakespearwrights, 264 W. 87th St.
My Fair Lady, Hellinger
Three Penny Opera, Theatre de Lys
Diary of Anne Frank, Cort
Inherit the Wind, National
No Time For Sergeants, Alvin
Me Candido, Greenwich Mews
Judy Garland Show, Palace

He Says: Blame Jersey For the Air Pollution

By HARRY RAYMOND

If smoke gets in your eyes anywhere within the 320 square miles of New York City, blame it on New Jersey. That's what Dr. Leonard Greenburg, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Air Pollution Control suggested last week.

The good doctor testified at a hearing of the Interstate Sanitation Commission, which is investigating the air pollution problem affecting New York and New Jersey.

Dr. Greenburg no doubt had a good point when he picked up the line from the old song: "Don't Blame It All on Broadway."

He discussed the problems of "prevailing winds" like and old sea captain.

If citizens in New York are choking daily on tons of soot—which the pollution doctors have properly called "condensed smoke"—Dr. Greenburg has the answer. He told the commission:

"The prevailing winds in this area are such that air pollution emanating from New Jersey is very frequently carried into New York City. For many years residents of New York City, particularly those of Staten Island and in the southerly and westerly portions of the Borough of Manhattan, have been disturbed and annoyed by the odors, dust and pollutants which have been brought to New York City from New Jersey."

Dr. Greenburg disclosed an old New York secret document. It was a letter written as far back as 1915, which he said "indicates the existence of complaints on this score." Why was it kept a secret that long?

Dr. Greenburg stood firm against the right of one state to send its smoke over another. But as a patriotic citizen of New York, he was mum about the soft coal smoke pouring out of the factories, apartments and other enterprise in

the city's five boroughs.

He didn't make clear whether he was a states rights man or not. There was nothing in his testimony advocating civil war against Jersey.

But he stuck firm to the anti-Jersey point of view. He said his smoke detectives, who have been sniffing the New York City air from some time, have discovered that the main source of pollution "originates from the industrial plants and open burning dumps along the Hudson River, the Lower Bay area and along the West Shore of Arthur Kill."

This smoke and smog, he said, is doing great damage to plant life and property on Staten Island.

What does the good doctor propose? He suggests that we "hope."

"Hope"—that is the slogan of the new anti-smoke campaign. Let us hope, said Dr. Greenburg, that the Interstate Sanitation Commission will be able to "evaluate the relative importance of the contributing sources on both sides of the border and will recommend steps to be taken to control the problem."

Come on, New Jersey, quit sending over all that smoke!

Classified Ads

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what's on

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Sunday Bronx

GENERAL YAKHANTOV will speak on the "World Situation" this Sun. eve., 8 p.m. at Bronx Cultural Center, 1753 Boston Road, Bronx. Adm. 50 cents.

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NEW YEAR'S EVE Dance and Entertainment, featuring the Dashingers and their celebrated orchestra and vocals. Monday eve., Dec. 31, at 8:30 p.m. Excellent buffet supper. Brighton Center, 220 Coney Island Ave., Brooklyn. Contr. \$1.50.

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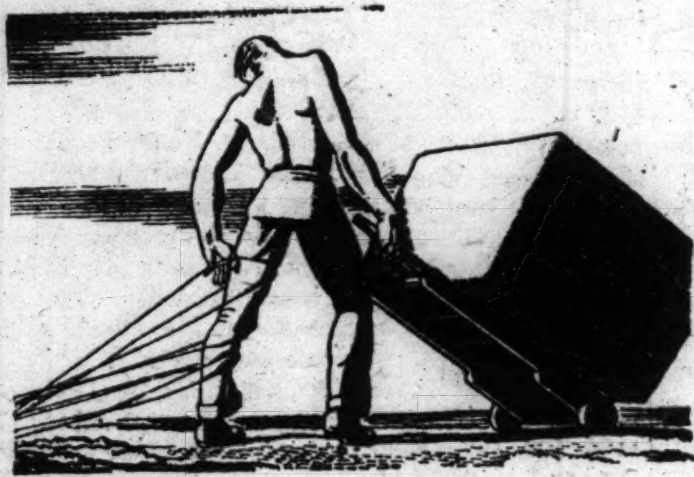
December 23rd

in shop and union

A CRACKDOWN on members of the Motormen's Benevolent Assn. highlighted the stormy transit labor picture this week. Justice Henry Clay Greenberg of State Supreme Court fined the MBA \$2,500 and sentenced 14 MBA officials to 10-day jail sentences for contempt of court. He then suspended sentence on the condition that the MBA obey an anti-strike injunction.

Greenberg acted on a petition from the Transit Authority, which recognizes only the Transport Workers Union for the city's 35,000 subway and bus workers. The TA had a cop at an MBA meeting where, it was charged, a new strike authorization vote was taken despite the injunction.

Whether this new crackdown will kill the rebellious spirit among the subway workers is another question. The TA has been penalizing motormen, maintenance shop workers, and others who have been involved in work stoppages. At the 207th IND shop, 54



workers lost a month's pay last month after being suspended for taking part in a stoppage.

But the discontent of transit workers over job security, speedup, transfers, wages, rescheduling, etc., remains.

NASSAU COUNTY POLICEMEN want to unionize. That's the word from Long Island these days. But they are forced to work on the QT for fear of reprisals. An unsigned mimeographed leaflet was circulated at a meeting of the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association Monday night.

The leaflet said the policemen had met with "experts in the field of organizing." The PBA was criticized as being "strictly under the commissioner's thumb"—in other words, a company union. The police force is apparently riled up because wage boosts and reduction in hours were denied for the third straight year.

Labor news covers a lot of territory these days.

A MILK STRIKE by dairy farmers upstate may be brewing. Strike polls have been under way by farm organizations. In the Gloversville area last week, a group of 100 dairy farmers won an increase for their milk as a result of a six-hour strike during which they withheld 9,000 quarts from the dealers.

The Gloversville strikers were members of the Dairy Farmers of America, which claims 1,000 members in N.Y. State. The DFA has been polling its members on a possible statewide strike for higher prices from dealers.

ROCHESTER UNIONS have been warned by a veteran labor attorney locally, John Scully, that recent court rulings may be used to force anti-strike injunctions on new grounds. He cited a Mississippi injunction barring picketing even though the violence was admittedly caused by "goons" hired by the bosses.

HOTEL TRADES COUNCIL is locked in a hassle with the YWCA, which recently took over the Hotel Capital and then proceeded to lock out the union employees. The YWCA got an injunction barring the union from picketing. A union move to vacate this ruling is pending. The YWCA is trying to avoid collective bargaining on the grounds it is a "charitable" organization.

OF 41 CAB DRIVERS honored by Mayor Wagner for heroism recently, 26 are members of Taxi Teamsters Local 826 which is trying for union recognition in this long-standing open shop industry. The local is pressing for a State Labor Relations Board election, while the fleet operators are stalling.

MACY'S LOCAL 1-5, Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Union, has filed charges with the State Labor Department that the company is violating a state labor law at its newly-opened, unorganized Roosevelt Field store.

The union says that Macy's is not complying with section 150 which requires one seat for every three women employees. The local, in an organizing campaign at the new store, calls attention to the fact that numerous grievances of this nature are taken care of by the union at the organized Herald Square store.



BAKERY LOCAL 3, with some 7,000 members in the metropolitan area, celebrated the first anniversary of the AFL-CIO merger with a little extra feeling. This local was formed in the summer of 1955, before the national merger, out of six separate locals. The union papers therefore declares, "To us of Local 3, unity is not merely a noble proposition, nor merger a purely theoretical term. We have made both a reality" which is paying off in wages and conditions.

LONGSHORE NEGOTIATIONS have started up again, while the 80-day Taft-Hartley no-strike provision is in force, but the key issue of national bargaining is not in the picture. Union and employer spokesmen are working on wages, paid holidays, sling loads,

Supreme Court Bars Appeal of N. Y. Teachers

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The U.S. Supreme Court has refused for the second time to hear the appeal of 13 New York teachers who were discharged in 1952 after pleading the Fifth Amendment in a Senate witchhunt.

The teachers were involved in the same inquiry as Harry Slochower, a Brooklyn college professor who won a high court decision in his favor last April.

In that case, the court ruled five to four that Slochower's dismissal without a hearing violated the constitution's guarantee of "due process of law."

The other teachers were denied Supreme Court review because the New York Court of Appeals refused to certify that they had raised the "due process" question in the state court. Following the Slochower decision, they unsuccessfully sought a rehearing in the New York tribunal. They then appealed to the Supreme Court again.

In rejecting their plea last week for the second time, the High Court said only, "The appeal is dismissed for want of jurisdiction."

The teachers involved are Mary I. Daniman, Meyer Case, Louis Cohen, Henry F. Mins, Louis Reilin, Louis Spindell, Irving Glucksmann, Morris Seltzer, Vera Shlakman, Bernard F. Riess, Sarah R. Riedman, Henrietta A. Friedman and Melba Phillips.

Mrs. Rose Russell, legislative representative of the Teachers Union, said of the decision:

"Legal technicalities cannot absolve the Board of Education and Board of Higher Education of a moral obligation to rectify an injustice which was inflicted in the first instance when they summarily dismissed the teachers at the height of the McCarthyite hysteria of 1952-53 by their automatic application of Section 903 of the City Charter."

"There is no legal obstacle to the boards' voluntarily applying the Slochower decision to all the teachers who had been unlawfully dismissed through such misapplication of the Charter but in fact they have the moral duty to act in the spirit rather than the letter of the law so that the teachers will not be permanently punished because of some alleged fault in the allegation."

Marine Corps Vet of Iwo Jima Asks: Why Does State Dep't Shun Mississippi?

By BOLZA BAXTER

DETROIT

In the Negro and white community alike here the State Department's activities in securing jobs for Hungarian so-called "freedom fighters" are viewed with much suspicion and its indifference to America's jobless is pointed to as proof that the government is not motivated by the humanitarian considerations.

UAW member B. B. James of 3396 Hancock East, Detroit, has organized a "Committee for Jobs for Americans." James, a Negro, came to Detroit 28 years ago. For the last five years he worked at the Briggs Mack plant. For part of that period he served as steward and was an active member of Local 212, UAW. Presently he is unemployed. In fact he has been without work for eight months and does not get state unemployment compensation nor welfare aid, even though he has a wife and two boys to provide for.

James was catapulted into prominence when he announced the formation of a "Protest Committee." Interviewed by press, radio and TV, James tried to make it clear that his purpose was not to keep the refugees out but to guarantee that available jobs here would go to Americans first, especially Negro Americans like himself who have been so hard hit by the long layoffs in the auto industry. (Still 138,000 idle in Michigan.)

James even though unemployed, is as busy today as any of the auto company executives. As I talked to

James, we were constantly interrupted by the ringing of the telephone. The calls were from workers, unemployed as well as employed offering to help in the work of the Committee.

James who sustained serious wounds during his service as a Marine Corps veteran of Iwo Jima had some very pointed things to say about the Hungarian situation, "Hungary is their country, it is their war, they should finish it, take care of home here first."

James speaks apologetically of the fact that he had only four years of schooling but adds that what he lacks in formal training he makes up in experience.

"It is not only from Communist countries that people are driven from, I have seen some and know of other countries where colored people have been driven from their land by the British. The United States did not open our country to them. As a matter of fact the U.S. joined the British in driving them further east."

"And put this in your paper, if the Government was so interested in freedom why didn't they send food and money to the freedom fighters of Mississippi, Alabama and such places. Why not send their planes to airlift these people to freedom?"

James outlined the future plans of the Committee, a plan that will bring to the attention of the American people in as forceful a manner as was the Hungarian situation, the plight of Detroit and Michigan unemployed Negro workers.

REV. KING SAYS SOUTH COMES BEFORE HUNGARY

Americans are too much concerned with Hungary and too little concerned "about the Negroes in Mississippi and Alabama," the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., told a recent luncheon. His remarks were published last week in the New Amsterdam News.

Dr. King told a luncheon conference held by the National Committee for Rural Schools that the federal government should be pressed to enforce the laws of the land.

"The Negro has been betrayed by both the Republicans and the Democrats," Dr. King is quoted as saying. "Southern Dixiecrats and right-wing reactionary northern Republicans have formed a coalition to block all civil rights. We must stop this coalition."

Segregation, Dr. King told the group, "is on his death bed, and many of us are glad to see the brother pass on." He implied that while southern political leaders are keeping jimcrow alive by "keeping him under an oxygen tent."

"Americans," he said, "are so concerned about the Hungarians—but it is strange that they have not the slightest concern about the Negroes in Mississippi and Alabama."

Reps. Diggs, Dingell Seek Facts About Ouster of Negro Air Officer

DETROIT. — Congressmen Charles Diggs and John Dingell (Mich) are searching for facts about a Negro Air Force officer being pressured out of the service by Dixiecrat U. S. Senator from Mississippi, John Stennis. The officer, Second Lieut. Titus Saunders, Jr. who first resigned and then tried to retract the resignation charged that Stennis was pressuring him. Saunders was given an honorable discharge when he "resigned."

Wilbur B. Brucker, Undersecretary of the Defense said that there was nothing irregular about the resignation of Lieut. Saunders and that he has been treated fairly.

Secretary of Defense "bird-dog" C.E. Wilson has no comment.

Lieut. Saunders was found "guilty" of drunk driving in Mississippi more than a year ago. He claimed that he was neither drunk nor driving, and that his car was being driven by a young woman when it was struck in the rear by a car driven by the wife of the local banker in the town where he was stationed. The local cops forced through a drunk driving. Lieut. Saunders appealed it to the Supreme Court, lost out and was sentenced to the chain gang and put under \$2,000 bond. The Air Force transferred him to Ohio and Gov. Lausche refused to extradite him to Mississippi. Senator Stennis complained to the Pentagon and the Air Force told Lieut. Saunders he either would have to resign or receive a dishonorable discharge.

To Michiganders it's no surprise that Wilbur Brucker, the assistant to "bird-dog" Wilson sees nothing irregular in this attack on a Negro's rights.

Brucker who ran for U.S. Senator in 1936 and was backed by the Wolverine Republican Club, a number of whose officers were indicated and jailed following a Grand Jury investigation which revealed they were members of the murderous Black Legion. The Black Legion was a labor-hating, Negro-hating, anti-Communist outfit that fought the unionization of the auto plants here in 1936.

and other unsettled issues. Next session is due Wednesday, Dec. 26.

Whether there will be a settlement before the February expiration of the T-H strike ban is still the big question. And whether the International Longshoremen's Association will settle without some gains in its demand for an industry-wide pact is also uncertain.

ALL MAJOR AIRLINES operating out of New York have been called on to follow the lead of the N.Y. Airways in hiring Negro pilots and other flight crewmen. The Urban League, which has for years campaigned to break jimcrow in this field, congratulated the N.Y. Airways, a city helicopter airline, which last week hired Perry H. Young, the first Negro to be taken on as a flight crewman by any airline.

The Worker

National
Edition

Registered as second class matter Oct. 22, 1947, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879

Vol. XXI, No. 23
(16 Pages)

December 23, 1956
Price 10 Cents

A Merry Christmas

TO OUR READERS and partners in our publishing enterprise, the heartiest of holiday greetings!

Our joint efforts have pulled us through another rough year, the 33rd since the Daily Worker was founded (as of the coming January 13th), and the 20th since we launched the weekly Worker.

The path of workingclass papers devoted to socialism has never been smooth in our country. Our Marxist movement has the proud distinction of having maintained a daily English-language newspaper far longer than any previous one in U. S. history. The Worker is rapidly approaching that distinction for socialist-oriented weeklies.

★
WHY is it so tough to maintain such a paper? Why can it exist only through the self-sacrificing efforts and contributions of its body of readers (or, in the case of the trade union press, through an organization's treasury)?

The folding of Collier's and Woman's Home Companion announced last weekend, provides a clue. Here are two publications with millions of readers. They could not make a go of it because advertising fell off. The average newspaper in this

(Continued on Page 13)

COMMUNIST PARTY LEADERS URGE SUPPORT TO THE WORKER SUB DRIVE

—See page 5

Folsom Aide Tells 'Worker' Of St-90 Talks

Other developments in the fallout arena are:

- N. Y. State Medical Society and N. Y. State Public Health Department schedule conference on milk contamination for Feb. 20.
- Wisconsin CIO will press for state law requiring tests of air and soil for strontium-90.
- United Nations Radiation Committee asks 87 nations to submit information.

For details see page 4.

By VIRGINIA GARDNER

THE Department of Health, Education and Welfare is holding conferences on the subject of radiostromtium and other radioactivity now present in the environment, a spokesman for the department told The Worker last week. The hazard to living, particularly infants and growing children, of internal radiation and its genetic effects, in the public debate over continued testing of high-yield bombs.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare was queried by The Worker on what it was doing in regard to strontium-90, potential cancer agent, whose presence in the nation's milk supply was revealed by Adlai Stevenson in the presidential campaign.

An aide to Marion Folsom, Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, was asked if Folsom could be reached by the reporter to find out about any activities investigating strontium-90.

"And what in the world would that be?" the aide asked.

She was told that it was the most poisonous of the fission products contained in fallout from nuclear bomb tests, that the Atomic Energy Commission had revealed now it had been testing metropolitan New York milkshed milk and

soil since early 1954 and other milk since 1955. She was asked also to tell Folsom that in Rochester, his home town, a proposal to institute tests of the milk there for strontium-90 is under consideration by the city board of health.

She said she thought it would "be a subject Mr. Folsom would not want to make a public statement on," but that she would see "who is 'up' on this problem" and have him call the reporter.

★
THE SPOKESMAN, calling later, pointed out that "this is a very broad subject and the Department's interest in it is very broad and it is engaged in many cooperative efforts" with other large organizations. These, he said, included the AEC, Department of Defense, the health departments of about 40 states, and professional societies, including medical, nuclear physicists and

(Continued on Page 13)

Reporter Looks for and Finds Xmas Spirit

By LESTER RODNEY

THE IDEA WAS to put on the reportorial walking shoes and get some week-before-Christmas sentiments and outlook. As we started west along 14th Street, here seemed little Christmas bubble in the air. There were no sidewalk Santa Claus or tinkling bells no window displays, not much in the way of crowds carrying bundles. Ohrbachs has moved, there are bleak empty For Rent signs where Hearns once teemed this time of year and downtown a bit Wanamakers is no more. It is a bypassed shopping area. In a Woolworth store a sales person said "slower than last year."

Uptown in the 20's, a retail and wholesale outlet house reported that "everyone is crying around here." It seems the pinch of the steady move to the suburbs of both affluent customers and shopping areas is suddenly adding up. "We're busy, mind you," was the admonition. "It's not dead, but it's not the big thing it was." For small businesses, this has to be the period to make up for all the year's slack, and to do that it has to be not busy, but frantic, unbelievable.

Another small businessman got

into the conversation, agreed it was slow, but said he expected to be busy early January. "Money is tighter than it was," he said. "But after some of the Christmas bonuses I look for a

rush."

IN A WESTERN UNION office, I was informed that there was a sharp uptake in telegrams to out of town places in this last week. "You'd never realize how

many New Yorkers didn't come from New York but have family all over the country," I was told. I asked about the Christmas greeting forms, with suggested verses. Do most make up their

own, or use the forms?

"The forms," was the answer, "with some exceptions. You'd be surprised, just a while ago someone came in, he must have I don't know how much money, he just said send one of the nice poems."

I looked at the poems. They are no threat to Walt Whitman. Here is one: "When you gather round the Christmas tree, read this message and think of me. Love." The word "love" can be added to any form for only a few cents, you are advised.

Moving up Chelsea's West Side, I chatted with a few housewives coming out of stores with bundles. In the pleasant glow that seems to go with buying presents, they didn't seem to believe that a reporter just casually passing by was seriously interested in how things were going for them, this Christmas, better or worse, and the best I can report for my efforts were the pleasantly bantering "Sure, we could always use some money for Christmas, you giving out an?" and "Give us a good write-up. I spent over \$12 today."

Passing the main postoffice, I noticed a group of several hun-

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Ebenezer Scrooge, Publisher

By JOSEPH NORTH

WHEN the Woman's Home Companion and Collier's went down last week the fall should have roared through the land like giant

pinetrees that top in a forest. These magazines had enormous circulations—over four million each. They had a history, the Companion was established in 1873, and Collier's, which was established in 1888, once enjoyed the regular writings and editings in its pages of such literary stalwarts as

Finley Peter Dunne (Mr. Dooley), Ring Lardner, H. G. Wells, Rudyard Kipling, Mark Sullivan and Norman Hapgood. Both had authority, history and readers—everything but enough of the dollars that advertising brings. We are told both lost \$7,500,000 this past year. Paul C. Smith, president and chairman of Crowell-Collier, parent firm of the two, said cryptically the losses were due to rising costs and falling revenue.

Mr. Smith said the disappearance of these two publications will "affect" over 2,400 employees. But he did not have the courage to spell that out. Theodore H. White, senior writer for Collier's, and spokesman for the committee, did: these men and women who worked without ben-



efit of a trade union will lose their jobs without a cent of severance pay, old age pensions, anything that would keep them a step ahead of the poorhouse. Some worked here 30 years; an elderly switchboard operator, half a century.

It is brutal, too, that the Board of Directors refused to lift a finger to help the employees buy the magazines. "We were told," White reports, "that we have to raise \$2 million within a day if we wanted to save the magazines." He intimated that if he were given time, the minimal offering the publishers granted under the cruel circumstances, the employees could have raised the appropriate sum. Even that dispensation was denied them.

SO, ON THE EVE of Merry Christmas when the publishers devote considerable space and time to declare their adherence to the Christly creed (when the carols are sounding on the radio) these veteran employees face bleak times.

I wonder how J. Patrick Lannan, the Chicago financier who moved in last week as a director and chairman of the publishing firm, will enjoy the egg-nog of Yule as he contemplates, (which he may, who knows?) his Scrooge-like decision to turn these old and faithful workers out into the cold. (It was his decision to chop the giant pinetrees down.) Even medieval old King Wenceslas called for his page to locate the poor and feed them Christmas gruel. Lannan went no further than to



promise a "job-placement bureau" on the premises.

And Smith, once known as the boy-wonder when he edited the San Francisco News Chronicle in his late twenties, and who has grown up to be the president of the Crowell-Collier firm, said piously, "The stockholders of our company number more than 7,000, and it is the primary duty of their board and chief executive officer to protect their investment."

SO WE SEE, even at Christ-

mas time, the dominant ethic that reigns over the capitalist order of society: Protect your investment, and let men starve as they may.

There is perhaps another fact to this journalistic phenomenon. How is it that two periodicals of circulations surpassing four and a quarter million each, couldn't make ends meet? The number of readers would indicate some considerable degree of loyalty and affection for the periodicals.

Personally, I have little brief for Collier's editorial policy which, I feel, has slid downhill for some years, hitting a low and dismal point when it devoted an issue virtually to exhorting a war between the USA and USSR, and gloated that "Guys and Dolls" would be playing the boards in the Moscow Bolshoi theatre after we got through with benighted Russkies. Down

with Ulyanova, out with Oistrakh, death to Chekhov, Pushkin and Gorky. Generally speaking, this represented the current thinking of Collier's, whose editorials were written by Reuben Maury, the genius who writes the editorials on the Daily News. It was a long bleak stretch backward from Maury to Peter Finley Dunne and his sagacious, and humane bartender Mr. Dooley

WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION, on the other hand, was different. I had taken to reading it the past few years, as I understand, many another husband did. Its frank and honest discourses on many social and personal questions of the day impressed me. The magazine was established 83 years back as the Home Companion; and some of our senior readers may remember Gertrude B. Lane, its most famous editor who held the post from 1912 until she died in 1941. Under her guidance the publication grew from 788,000 to more than 3,600,000.

One can well reflect upon the sorry state of journalistic affairs; once upon a time our nation had over 3,000 daily newspapers. Today the number has shrunk to 1,800. This past year three vast periodicals, the American Magazine, Collier's and Woman's Home Companion are gone from the news-stands. And so even the stage for a diversity of viewpoint has shrunk. As we have abundantly heard in the midst of recent political campaigns, American has virtually become a country of a one-party press.

I do not, in conclusion, wish to grind a personal axe, but the fate of these giants of circulation should help our readers understand the burdens a paper like ours shoulders. If periodicals with four-million readers cannot make a go of it in this dog-eat-dog economic setup, it is little less than a miracle that our paper can continue to appear.

Could it be that our simple devotion to the principle of peace on earth, good will to men is mightier than the millions of dollars that crossed the palms of Crowell-Collier's?

AFL-CIO Sees Jan. 3 Crucial on Rights

By ABNER W. BERRY

DESPITE the Democratic platform pledge on civil rights legislation and the almost unanimous agreement that such legislation is impossible unless Senate filibusters can be curbed, the effort against the filibuster is still supported by only 12 U. S. Senators. The

of seniority and patronage privileges from Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-NY), and to request desegregation enforcement by President Eisenhower and Attorney General Herbert Brownell.

The American Civil Liberties Union made the fight against the filibuster a part of its program to give support to southerners in their legal fight against segregation.

In New York, the Liberal Party announced a campaign to collect 300,000 signatures on a petition calling for senatorial action against filibusters.

The American Jewish Committee asked Congress to abolish filibusters, warning that passage of civil rights legislation would continue to be "extremely remote" unless the senate rules are changed.

BUT, WHILE THE DEMANDS for change mounted, Senate liberals became more timorous, as if caught between the cross-fire of the people's wants and the power still wielded by the Congressional Dixiecrats. On the Republican side there is the comfortable coalition in the Senate with the Dixiecrats that an all-out civil rights fight would impair.

The veteran legislative representative of the NAACP, Clarence Mitchell, writing in the current Baltimore Afro-American points out:

The real Democratic leadership in the Senate rests somewhere between Richard Russell, unelected, and the withdrawal of civil rights from Georgia.

gia, and Harry F. Byrd of Virginia.

It was Russell who led the Dixiecrat bloc into the GOP-Dixiecrat alliance in 1949.

Northern Democrats are under pressure from the nominal majority leader Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas, Mitchell to "see things through Russell - colored glasses" if they are to get committee appointments and consideration of their pet bills.

It is difficult to know what is gained by having Sen. Johnson act as a kind of front man for the arch foes of civil rights. Mitchell writes, "Democrats who must depend on their civil rights record to get re-elected should demand an opportunity to select another majority leader. Unless they do, they must accept responsibility for the present condition which permits Russell et al. to run things by remote control."

Mitchell's explanation for the slowness of liberal senators was reflected by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in a somewhat pessimistic tone. The League commented last Saturday:

"Until a bi-partisan liberal bloc committed to civil rights wins a comfortable majority in the Senate and House, the chances of a major breakthrough on civil rights will be slim indeed."

Meantime the voters are proceeding on the basis of the fact that they were electing such a liberal majority. For isn't that what the platformers led them to believe?

N.Y. Auto Show Didn't Tell the Detroit Story

DETROIT.—Though the Automobile Manufacturers Association is reported to have spent \$11½ million to launch the 1957 cars at the National Auto Show in New York last week, it did not tell the entire truth about the automotive industry.

This was left unsaid: 1. Unemployment in Michigan, primarily among auto workers, has grown from 83,000 last year to 140,000 this year.

2. Although Harlow Curtice, of General Motors, Henry Ford II, and other tycoons predict a 6½ million new car season, a survey by a national magazine, Colliers, predicts it will be a 5½ million season. That would mean at least a 3½ month layoff for 5-10 year seniority people.

The big auto show at the New York Coliseum did not—amidst the soft lights, heavenly music and Madison Avenue halleluia—quote a single word of Walter Reuther, UAW head. He said that the price boosts this year—as high as \$600 a car—will mean 100,000 jobs less. A million Americans less will buy, Reuther said, because they are unable to meet the price or the payments.

Further, omitted from the Coliseum jubilee was the fact that GM's Fisher, Chrysler, Highland Park, Dodge Main, and at least a dozen other plants are taking strike votes.

The hard fact is that a wild production battle rage among the three remaining giants of the industry: GM, Ford, Chrysler. Each is trying to crack all past produc-

tion records even if it breaks the backs of the workers in the process.

HIGH ON THE FINTAILS of the 1957 model rides not only speedup, but automation. Both are now the bane of the auto workers' lives.

Automation has taken a heavy toll of jobs as have runaway shops and plants built at government expense or with fast tax writeoff agreements made with the Cadillac Cabinet members. All this is done in the name of "meet competition" and reduce costs.

The Big Three are bypassing the bare elementary health and safety standards to get production. More workers are being injured, ruptured, lacerated, burned, the Workmen's Compensation Commission says. The death rate has crept up too. This is why strike votes are piling up.

In a UAW poll 85 percent favored the 30 hour week with 40 hours pay. These workers see what's happening behind the chrome and the finetails. After all, Ford made \$145,200,000 profits after taxes the first nine months of 1956, and GM \$639,585,399, while the layoffs among workers got longer, speedup increased: profits continue to mount to an all-time high.

Hence the 30-hour week for 40 hour pay is the overwhelming choice, simultaneously the workers indicate they want wage increases, more pension money, better health and medical care. You didn't hear any of this at the Coliseum last week.

CTA in Grip Of La Salle St. Bankers

(Continued from Page 16)

could hardly fail to disclose how Chicagoans have been swindled by the La Salle Street bankers—and how this swindle is now taking a terrible toll of lives.

The story can be summarized in terms of that ill-fated wooden car which became the blazing coffin of motorman Daniel Cullen on December 6. That car was built way back in 1906, when the bankers were running the Chicago "L" lines through the Rapid Transit Company.

By 1945, the bankers were no longer able to milk any more profits out of the Rapid Transit Company and the Chicago Surface Lines. They had on their hands an obsolete pile of junk, including hundreds of those ancient wooden "L" cars which are still in use.

The swindle which the bankers devised was to set up the Chicago Transit Authority, to sell the junk to the CTA for the fabulous price of \$90 million, to use this money to buy the high-interest bearing tax-exempt bonds issue of the CTA—thereby retaining control of the transit system under a more profitable arrangement.

THERE ARE three key documents in what Mayor Daley calls "the structure and operation of CTA." One is the 1945 city ordinance which granted a franchise to the CTA.

Secondly, there is the state law, the Metropolitan Transit authority Act, which sets up the CTA, provides that the bankers and bondholders must get their profit at all costs, permit the CTA to set fares, reduce service, operate its lines as it pleases without any control by the public or any public body.

Thirdly, there is the Trust Agreement, between the CTA and the First National Bank, which represents the bondholders. This agreement gives the bank the final veto power over the CTA in the matter of budgets, financing, revenue, fares, etc.

IT IS THE last of these three documents which gives the bankers the right to determine what kind of service Chicagoans are going to get, how safe it will be to travel the CTA, how much is to be taken out of the pockets of the people of this city in fares.

But those who have studied the CTA set-up say it is possible to curb the bankers' control through either of the two other key documents.

The 1945 city ordinance states that a franchise is granted to the CTA on the basis that it will furnish "attractive, convenient, efficient and economical transportation service" to the city that could not possibly serve as a description of CTA's current operation.

IT IS POINTED out that by claiming the CTA is violating this franchise, the city could cancel it—or threaten to cancel it unless certain improvements in the CTA are made.

As for the state law which set up CTA, it could be revised by the session of the Legislature which begins in the next ten days.

The main provision of that law says, in effect that the CTA must pare expenses, raise fares in order to guarantee that the bondholders get \$4 million in interest each year—interest at extortionate rates of up to six percent on bonds that are tax-free and risk-free!

SECTION 30 of the Metropolitan Transit Authority Act reads as follows:

"The CTA Board shall fix rates, fares and charges for transportation, provided that they shall be at all times sufficient in the aggregate to provide revenues (a) for the payment of the interest on and principal of all bonds. . . ."

With such a policy of "Profits First" is it any wonder that the CTA's practice is "Safety Last?"

Readers Have Varied Replies on Features

ANALYZING a second group of responses to a recent questionnaire on *The Worker*, it is clear that most of the readers find the editorials helpful.

A number of the replies carried sharp critical comments on recent editorials which criticized the Soviet Union.

However, the overwhelming reaction was that the editorials are read regularly, they are a helpful guide to action, they are not too long or too "preachy." There was a sizeable group of readers who said the editorials often "lack punch."

THE comments on features and columns in the paper are much more varied. The movie reviews received top vote.

A large number of readers replied that they "never read" the art, music, TV reviews or the women's page. Others expressed sharp criticism of the women's page. One reader wrote in the words, "disgraceful."

The book reviews received some favorable response, as did the TV columns of Ben Levine. But music and art appeared as subjects on which our readers found little of interest in the paper.

THERE was one reply that was almost unanimous—that our readers do not want fiction in the paper. There were a few who said they

preferred serialized novels or novelettes.

Almost as unanimous, the questionnaires called for more features on American history in the columns of *The Worker*.

The majority of readers said they were not in favor of more poetry. Some commented that the poems which do appear in *The Worker* are hard to understand.

THE series of questions dealing with preference on regular columnists drew a variety of reactions. Of those listed, there were three who received the best response: George Morris, Howard Fast, Abner Berry. These three columnists, the readers indicated, are read regularly, and not one of the replies considered them as "poor."

The only one who had some "poor" reactions was columnist Joe Clark. However, these reactions were in almost every case from people who also commented that they disagreed with Clark's views on the Soviet Union and on the recent events in Eastern Europe. On the other hand, another large group of replies praised Clark highly.

There were a heavily favorable reaction to the columns of Joseph North, but some readers regarded him as "fair" while others commented that his column is "spotty" and there were a few who said they never read it.

(To Be Continued)

Farmers Defeat Benson Program

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — A new phase of the struggle between the nation's farmers and the Eisenhower administration farm program was seen developing here this week following the corn control referendum.

In the voting, farmers rejected the new program favored by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson. Corn growers voted instead to stick with an old program authorized in 1938, even with its shortcomings.

Ralph Bradley, president of the Illinois Farmers Union, stated here that the voting results should be interpreted as a repudiation of Benson. The state farm leader said that "President Eisenhower should replace Benson with a man in whom the farmers have confidence."

"IN the overall interest of the entire corn program," Bradley declared, "Benson should be instructed by the President to list the maximum loan price of corn under the 1956 farm act at 90 percent of parity at \$1.55 a bushel."

The negative vote on the new soil bank base acreage plan had the effect of curbing the power of Benson to determine controls and support prices. The vote was also seen as a protest against the fact that the administration has been cutting back aid to the farmers since the election, stopping pro-

grams which pumped more money into benefits for farmers in the period of the election campaign.

The referendum was called "bewildering" in the way it was set up, allowing farmers very little choice. Many failed to vote. In fact, it was pointed out that the vote against the Benson plan would have been even higher had the issue been more clear-cut.

IN Illinois, the bigger farm operators turned out heavily for the plan, resulting in an 80 percent vote in favor of the Benson program. However, nationwide, the plan fell far short of the 66 percent needed.

In McLean County, Illinois, the vote was 84 percent in favor of the Benson plan. However, only one-third of the eligible farmers cast ballots. In LaSalle County, farmers voted 1,299 to 406 in favor of the new plan, with only half of those eligible taking part.

Nationwide, the corn referendum produced 257,874 for the new proposal and 163,227 for the old one. This majority of 61.2 fell short of the two-thirds vote needed by the administration for adoption.

This voting, coming on the heels of the November elections in which a sizeable number of farmers left the Republican Party, was seen as marking a new phase of the struggle of the farmers for higher income.

Arthritis Pill Firm Found Guilty

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The U. S. Court of Appeals today found the Dolcin Corp. of New York and three officers guilty of criminal contempt for continuing to advertise their product as a "fast-acting, long-lasting" remedy for arthritis and other painful ailments.

The officers, Victor Van Der Linde, board chairman; George Shimmerlik, treasurer; and Albert T. Wantz, secretary, were instructed

to appear Jan. 14 for a hearing to determine their punishment.

The Federal Trade Commission first complained about the advertising of Dolcin tablets in mid-1949. In 1955, the court barred a type of radio commercial which the commission found to be false advertising.

Last June the commission asked that the corporation and the three officers be fined for violating the decree.

SHOP TALK

ORGANIZING the white collar workers is the big push now by the AFL-CIO. To help get things started here, a three-day institute will be held at Roosevelt University Jan. 10-12. Here will be aired some of the knotty problems which have traditionally stood in the way of unionizing the office workers, clerks, government workers, etc.

THE unions here brought in 1,100 members to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in the drive just completed. The AFL-CIO locals that participated got credit last week for doing a job second only to that performed by the churches.

The Chicago-area railroad workers are especially proud of the rise of movie star Kim Novak, formerly of Chicago. She is the daughter of Joseph Novak, a clerk in the Galewood, Illinois freight office of the Milwaukee Road.

THE International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has moved into the field of helping its members buy homes. The IBEW has secured authorization from the FHA to use its funds to finance mortgages.

PAT Greathouse, UAW vice-president, gave the Farm Bureau, some straight talk at the conservative farm organization's convention in Miami last week. Greathouse told them that labor has a big stake in helping farmers get a fair share of earnings, underscoring the point by showing what poor farm income has done to farm equipment workers' jobs.

ONE of the big issues being weighed by the U.S. Supreme Court right now centers around the case of John T. Watkins, the Quad-Cities UAW man who refused to give a lot of names to the House Un-American Committee.

THE recent UAW Skilled Trades Conference in Chicago highlighted the problem which the union is having at some plants with what is called "bastard" classifications through which one worker performs many skilled jobs. One of these is the classification of "Automation Equipment Maker and Repairman," which the UAW has just succeeded in eliminating at the new Ford Stamping Plant in Chicago Heights.

THE National Association of Manufacturers has a cute new gimmick for explaining away the inequitable sales tax such as we have in Illinois. Says the NAM: "It's the fairest tax, falling equally on those who can afford it—and those who can't."

VISITS, GREETINGS COULD MAKE SEASON BRIGHT FOR SAM HAMMERSMARK

CHICAGO—One Chicagoan who is hoping to hear from a good many of his friends this holiday season is Sam Hammersmark.

This well-loved old-timer of the labor movement, ill and confined, is living today at a rest home.

Hammersmark will be 84 his next birthday. His active participation in labor and progressive struggles goes back to the days of Haymarket Frameup. His associates have included Clarence Darrow, Jane Addams, Gov. John Altgeld, Edgar Lee Masters and Carl Sandburg.

In recent years, Sam Hammersmark was well known as the manager of the Modern Book Store, 64 W. Randolph St.

He is living today at the Schwied Rest Home, 4542 N. Malden. The holiday season could be brightened for him by a number of token greetings, visits, cards.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

Why Is Plight of Some Downtrodden Forgotten?

The following is by a Chicago Daily Defender columnist, Lee Blackwell:

THIS IS A CRAZY, mixed-up world. Freedom fighters are called "rebels" in Algeria and "patriots" in Hungary. There is no question about the need for Hungarian relief. But why is the plight of other downtrodden people who have felt the boot of tyranny in their faces almost completely forgotten? And why is it that many Negroes who seldom give time or money to the NAACP on so ready to shell out plenty for Hungarian relief.

DON'T GET ME WRONG. I think the Hungarian people deserve high praise and support for their courage in resisting Russian tyranny. But Negro leaders and the rank and file of Negroes in America must continue to fight for first-class citizenship in the land that is their home.

American born Negroes who love America must stare job discrimination in the face day after day. But Hungarian refugees come here and are given jobs immediately along with the benefits of first-class citizenship which are de-

nied Negroes in America.

America is a free country and for hundreds of years has been the racial melting pot of the world. Our great land has traditionally welcomed the persecuted from all shores.

But why must we let a discriminatory law, like the McCarran-Walter Act, remain on our books—when it brazenly limits immigration of darker races to this country.

It's time we set the record straight.

Brings Big Profits Milking Customers

DETROIT.—Michiganders who use milk won't be happy to note that milk now 26 cents a quart here is fattening not those who drink it, but those who control it, namely National Dairy and Borden, the Big Two of the dairy industry, who control Michigan milk sales.

Net profits after taxes for National Dairies in the first nine months of 1956 were \$30,962,067 as compared to \$29,893,460 last year in the same period.



WILL the Republicans or Democrats nominate a Negro attorney for one of the 2 vacancies coming up in the spring elections for the State Supreme Court in Michigan?

SOME of these characters "Soapy" Williams nominated for judgeships nobody ever heard of them particularly doing anything for labor or the peoples movement.

FORD LOCAL No. 600 Executive Board is not in favor of the 50c increase in monthly dues, proposed by the UAW International. Be too bad if this issue becomes a factional fight, the bosses are the main enemy.

A Holiday Suggestion

SINCE this is a gift season, we have a suggestion for the loyal readers and supporters of our paper.

Our financial needs have never been greater.

Illinois readers have made some valiant efforts to help. A group of North Side trade unions last week brought in \$100, the proceeds of a house party.

But still we are far short of our needs, and also far short of what other states are doing in this

drive to guarantee the survival of our paper.

We suggest that a holiday gift to The Worker would be very welcome. Send it to The Worker, 36 W. Randolph, Room 806, Chicago 1, Ill.

It would be appreciated as a token of faith in the paper and of thanks for its services. Such a little gift from hundreds of Illinois readers would also go a surprisingly long way in curing our paper of what ails it.

CFL Asks Mayor Daley To Halt Illegal Jim Crow in Hospitals

CHICAGO. — Mayor Richard J. Daley was handed a request from the Chicago Federation of Labor this week that he take steps to stop several Chicago hospitals, from illegally discriminating against Negro patients.

The Mayor was reminded that this practice was declared unlawful by a City Council ordinance and that "such violations be immediately acted upon and the full penalties of the law be brought to bear against those institutions which violate this ordinance."

The CFL passed a resolution at its December meeting which noted that anti-discrimination law was being violated. It was

pointed out by the federation that "many hospitals are circumventing the law by such practices as assigning only private rooms to Negro patients."

The law-breaking was brought to the attention of the CFL executive board by James H. Kemp, president of the Building Service Employees Local 189.

The full meeting of the federation then asked the Mayor to take action against "the un-American practice of segregation and discrimination against Negroes and other racial groups by some of the hospitals in our city."

SALES TAX MAKES THE RICH RICHER AND THE POOR POORER



—From the AFL Labor's Economic Review

Illinois Among Worst in Taxes

CHICAGO.—Illinois is one of the worst states in the U. S., from the standpoint of saddling the lowest-income families with the main burden of state taxation.

The fact stood out in a new survey published by the AFL-CIO in its Labor's Economic Review.

With 82 percent of its total state revenue derived from sales and excise taxes, Illinois has the third highest percentage of taxation in the U. S. from this source.

The AFL-CIO survey also disclosed that Illinois is one of the 13 states in the U. S. which has no tax on the income of individuals at all and no tax on the profits of corporations.

It was pointed out that the opening of the Legislature affords an opportunity to fight against "the kind of taxes that inflict the greatest burden on families least able to pay."

In Illinois also, the defeat of

the Blue Ballot last November stopped an effort by the big corporations to put a permanent ban on a state income tax.



CTA in Deadly Grip Of Transit Bankers

By CARL HIRSCH

CHICAGO

These days, Chicago transit riders are more than ever fearful, frustrated and fed-up. The quickening series of tragedies on the CTA has frightened them badly.

The blustery winter months show up the miserable CTA service at its worst. And the threat is that now fares are to go up to 25 cents.

What most riders suspect but do not fully realize is that there is a common source for all three of these bitter complaints.

It comes down to the fact that the CTA is not the property of the people of Chicago. It is the captive of the bankers, specifically the First National Bank of Chicago, and the bondholders of the CTA for whom that bank acts as trustee.

WHILE the transit riders are worried for fear they won't get home alive, the First National Bank is also worried. The bankers are concerned that the latest series of gruesome disasters on the CTA has endangered the possibility of raising fares once again.

But the spokesman for the

bank, a Mr. Gilman Smith, has made it clear that the fare boost must come. Mr. Smith is a consulting engineer of the firm of W. C. Gilman and Co. This firm is hired by the First National Bank of Chicago to determine when a fare boost is "necessary."

What gives the bank this power? The power is written into Trust Agreement between the CTA and the First National Bank as trustee for the bondholders. That agreement states that change in fares are to be approved by a consulting engineer "acceptable to the trustee."

THE TRAGIC coincidence however, was that Mr. Gilman Smith's fare boost proposal came on December 6. And on December 7, Chicagoans were horrified by the latest in the series of "L" train tragedies, the explosion and flash fire of a wooden-car train on the Howard St. line.

It was disclosed this week by General Manager Walter J. McCarter that the CTA had "saved money" by not installing the necessary fuse boxes in the wooden cars—in spite of the fact scores of Chicagoans had al-

ready died in these "rolling coffins."

CTA had also "saved money" in failing to install the block signal system which would have prevented the tragedy of November 5 in which eight persons lost their lives at Wilson Avenue.

THE RECORD of "saving money" at the cost of lives goes back to numerous disasters, including the May 25, 1950 crash at 63rd and States, where 33 persons burned to death in a street car and a coroner's jury found that "emergency facilities on the TCA are entirely inadequate."

This week, a number of disturbed Chicagoans were finding out that in order to examine why the CTA has callous policy toward the safety of its riders, it is necessary to look into the matter of who really controls the transit system.

With the city seething with anger, Mayor Daley issued a statement rejecting the proposed increase in fare and suggesting that "the entire structure and operation of CTA" be reviewed.

SUCH A REVIEW, if it comes, (Continued on Page 15)

What Every Straphanger Should Know About CTA

Q. Is the Chicago Transit Authority run through public ownership?

A. No. The CTA is capitalized through the sale of \$105 million worth of bonds, held by a group of private bankers and investors. The ownership of these bonds is actually the ownership of CTA. The owners are guaranteed a big profit in the form of interest on these bonds which runs as high as six percent.

Q. Who runs the CTA?

A. The final authority is in the hands of the bankers and bondholders. They control the seven-member CTA Board. They are the beneficiaries of the state law setting up CTA which guarantees them their profit first. They are represented by the First National Bank of Chicago which, as trustee for the CTA, holds a Trust Agreement which further strengthens the bankers' control.

Q. Doesn't the public have anything to say about the CTA?

A. Not officially. As distinct

from the other public transportation and public utilities in the state, the CTA is not required to get approval from the Illinois Commerce Commission or any other public body on matters of fares, service, etc.

Q. Is there anything the city government of Chicago can do about service and fares?

A. Yes. The city can revoke the franchise which is being violated because the CTA has pledged to provide "attractive, convenient, efficient and economical transportation."

Q. How can control of CTA be taken from the bankers?

A. Through changing the state law which gave them complete authority and failed to provide any curbs against the abuse of this authority.

Q. Is there any justification for a fare increase to 25 cents?

A. No. This would make Chicago's fares again the highest in the nation. It would mean that fares have been increased eight times since CTA was begun in

1947—when it was still possible to ride anywhere in Chicago for a dime.

Q. What about the proposal that the CTA be subsidized from public funds?

A. In the first place, the CTA is already being subsidized, for example: it is tax exempt; it uses the subways which the city built at a cost of \$75 million. The key thing in any further proposal for a public subsidy is to make certain that the public is given some control over the CTA.

Q. What is the most practical way to halt a new fare increase?

A. This can be achieved through a three-pronged struggle by the people of Chicago: (a) to organize mass resistance and protest directed toward the CTA Board; (b) to compel the City of Chicago to take action against a boost; (c) to demand that the Illinois Legislature revise the state law on CTA, giving the public some veto power over unwarranted fare increases.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT CTA

IF EVER the people of Chicago needed leadership and organization on a burning issue, it is now when the CTA bosses have proved themselves unfit to run the city's public transportation system.

The unfortunate thing is that no one group has stepped forward to show the way. Back in '49, the Communist Party of Illinois carried the fight against a fare increase into the public hearing room of the CTA.

In that year, it was the Progressive Party that conducted a most effective struggle actually stopping the fare boost temporarily through a court injunction.

In later years, 1951 and 1954, the Republican Party stepped in and tried to make partisan use of the mass indignation against a fare increase. And of course, that produced nothing but new fare hikes for straphangers of Chicago.

This time, it is possible to win some advances in the long fight against the transit barons who control the CTA.

But such victories are possible only if the people's organizations get into the fight. Those labor and liberal forces who worked so hard in the recent elections must now move into the

transit situation.

Lacking a specific organization to lead and coordinate, it is up to every group to do its part. With indignation running high, the issue is not "out of order" on the floor of any union meeting or community gathering.

We ask every reader of our paper to begin with a letter to your own alderman or legislator, get a few of your friends to do the same, and place this simple type of action before your club, your lodge, your local union.

There is enough anger in Chicago today to get some changes for the better in CTA.

**ILLINOIS
DUSABLE
EDITION**

The Worker

Reentered as second class matter Oct. 22, 1947, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879

Vol. XXI, No. 23
(16 Pages)

December 23, 1956
Price 10 Cents

A Merry Christmas

TO OUR READERS and partners in our publishing enterprise, the heartiest of holiday greetings!

Our joint efforts have pulled us through another rough year, the 33rd since the Daily Worker was founded (as of the coming January 13th), and the 20th since we launched the weekly Worker.

The path of workingclass papers devoted to socialism has never been smooth in our country. Our Marxist movement has the proud distinction of having maintained a daily English-language newspaper far longer than any previous one in U. S. history. The Worker is rapidly approaching that distinction for socialist-oriented weeklies.

★
WHY is it so tough to maintain such a paper? Why can it exist only through the self-sacrificing efforts and contributions of its body of readers (or, in the case of the trade union press, through an organization's treasury)?

The folding of Collier's and Woman's Home Companion announced last weekend, provides a clue. Here are two publications with millions of readers. They could not make a go of it because advertising fell off. The average newspaper in this

(Continued on Page 13)

COMMUNIST PARTY LEADERS URGE SUPPORT TO THE WORKER SUB DRIVE

—See page 5

Folsom Aide Tells 'Worker' Of St-90 Talks

Other developments in the fallout arena are:

- N. Y. State Medical Society and N. Y. State Public Health Department schedule conference on milk contamination for Feb. 20.
- Wisconsin CIO will press for state law requiring tests of air and soil for strontium-90.
- United Nations Radiation Committee asks 87 nations to submit information.

For details see page 4.

By VIRGINIA GARDNER

THE Department of Health, Education and Welfare is holding conferences on the subject of radiostrontium and other radioactivity now present in the environment, a spokesman for the department told The Worker last week. The hazard to living, particularly infants and growing children, of internal radiation and its genetic effects, in the public debate over continued testing of high-yield bombs.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare was queried by The Worker on what it was doing in regard to strontium-90, potential cancer agent, whose presence in the nation's milk supply was revealed by Adlai Stevenson in the presidential campaign.

An aide to Marion Folsom, Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, was asked if Folsom could be reached by the reporter to find out about any activities investigating strontium-90.

"And what in the world would that be?" the aide asked.

She was told that it was the most poisonous of the fission products contained in fallout from nuclear bomb tests, that the Atomic Energy Commission had revealed now it had been testing metropolitan New York milkshed milk and

soil since early 1954 and other milk since 1955. She was asked also to tell Folsom that in Rochester, his home town, a proposal to institute tests of the milk there for strontium-90 is under consideration by the city board of health.

She said she thought it would "be a subject Mr. Folsom would not want to make a public statement on," but that she would see "who is 'up' on this problem" and have him call the reporter.

★
THE SPOKESMAN, calling later, pointed out that "this is a very broad subject and the Department's interest in it is very broad and it is engaged in many cooperative efforts" with other large organizations. These, he said, included the AEC, Department of Defense, the health departments of about 40 states, and professional societies, including medical, nuclear physicists and

(Continued on Page 13)

Reporter Looks for and Finds Xmas Spirit

By LESTER RODNEY

THE IDEA WAS to put on the reportorial walking shoes and get some week-before-Christmas sentiments and outlook. As we started west along 14th Street, here seemed little Christmas bubble in the air. There were no sidewalk Santa Clauses or tinkling bells, no window displays, not much in the way of crowds carrying bundles. Ohrbachs has moved, there are bleak empty For Rent signs where Hearns once teemed this time of year and downtown a bit Wanamakers is no more. It is a bypassed shopping area. In a Woolworth store a sales person said "slower than last year."

Uptown in the 20's, a retail and wholesale outlet house reported that "everyone is crying around here." It seems the pinch of the steady move to the suburbs of both affluent customers and shopping areas is suddenly adding up. "We're busy, mind you," was the admonition. "It's not dead, but it's not the big thing it was." For small businesses, this has to be the period to make up for all the year's slack, and to do that it has to be not busy, but frantic, unbelievable.

Another small businessman got

into the conversation, agreed it was slow, but said he expected to be busy early January. "Money is tighter than it was," he said. "But after some of the Christmas bonuses I look for a

rush."

IN A WESTERN UNION office, I was informed that there was a sharp uptake in telegrams to out of town places in this last week. "You'd never realize how

many New Yorkers didn't come from New York but have family all over the country," I was told. I asked about the Christmas greeting forms, with suggested verses. Do most make up their

own, or use the forms?

"The forms," was the answer, "with some exceptions. You'd be surprised, just a while ago someone came in, he must have I don't know how much money, he just said send one of the nice poems."

I looked at the poems. They are no threat to Walt Whitman. Here is one: "When you gather round the Christmas tree, read this message and think of me. Love." The word "love" can be added to any form for only a few cents, you are advised.

Moving up Chelsea's West Side, I chatted with a few housewives coming out of stores with bundles. In the pleasant glow that seems to go with buying presents, they didn't seem to believe that a reporter just casually passing by was seriously interested in how things were going for them, this Christmas, better or worse, and the best I can report for my efforts were the pleasantly bantering "Sure, we could always use some money for Christmas, you giving out an?" and "Give us a good write-up, I spent over \$12 today."

Passing the main postoffice, I noticed a group of several hun-

(Continued on Page 13)



Ebenezer Scrooge, Publisher

By JOSEPH NORTH

WHEN the Woman's Home Companion and Collier's went down last week the fall should have roared through the land like giant

pinetrees that top in a forest. These magazines had enormous circulations—over four million each. They had a history, the Companion was established in 1873, and Collier's,

which was established in 1888, once enjoyed the regular writings and editings in its pages of such literary stalwarts as Finley Peter Dunne (Mr. Dooley), Ring Lardner, H. G. Wells, Rudyard Kipling, Mark Sullivan and Norman Hapgood.

Both had authority, history and readers—everything but enough of the dollars that advertising brings. We are told both lost \$7,500,000 this past year. Paul C. Smith, president and chairman of Crowell-Collier, parent firm of the two, said cryptically the losses were due to rising costs and falling revenue.

Mr. Smith said the disappearance of these two publications will "affect" over 2,400 employees. But he did not have the courage to spell that out. Theodore H. White, senior writer for Collier's, and spokesman for the committee, did: these men and women who worked without ben-

efit of a trade union will lose their jobs without a cent of severance pay, old age pensions, anything that would keep them a step ahead of the poorhouse. Some worked here 30 years; an elderly switchboard operator, half a century.

It is brutal, too, that the Board of Directors refused to lift a finger to help the employees buy the magazines. "We were told," White reports, "that we have to raise \$2 million within a day if we wanted to save the magazines." He intimated that if he were given time, the minimal offering of the publishers granted under the cruel circumstances, the employees could have raised the appropriate sum. Even that dispensation was denied them.

SO, ON THE EVE of Merry Christmas when the publishers devote considerable space and time to declare their adherence to the Christly creed (when the carols are sounding on the radio) these veteran employees face bleak times.

I wonder how J. Patrick Lannan, the Chicago financier who moved in last week as a director and chairman of the publishing firm, will enjoy the egg-nog of Yule as he contemplates, (which he may, who knows?) his Scrooge-like decision to turn these old and faithful workers out into the cold. (It was his decision to chop the giant pines down.) Even medieval old King Wenceslas called for his page to locate the poor and feed them Christmas gruel. Lannan went no further than to



promise a "job-placement bureau" on the premises.

And Smith, once known as the boy-wonder when he edited the San Francisco News Chronicle in his late twenties, and who has grown up to be the president of the Crowell-Collier firm, said piously, "The stockholders of our company number more than 7,000, and it is the primary duty of their board and chief executive officer to protect their investment."

SO WE SEE, even at Christ-

mas time, the dominant ethic that reigns over the capitalist order of society: Protect your investment, and let men starve as they may.

There is perhaps another fact to this journalistic phenomenon. How is it that two periodicals of circulations surpassing four and a quarter million each, couldn't make ends meet? The number of readers would indicate some considerable degree of loyalty and affection for the periodicals.

Personally, I have little brief for Collier's editorial policy which, I feel, has slid downhill for some years, hitting a low and dismal point when it devoted an issue virtually to exhorting a war between the USA and USSR, and gloated that "Guys and Dolls" would be playing the boards in the Moscow Bolshoi theatre after we got through with benighted Russkies. Down

with Ulyanova, out with Oistrakh, death to Chekhov, Pushkin and Gorky. Generally speaking, this represented the current thinking of Collier's, whose editorials were written by Reuben Maury, the genius who writes the editorials on the Daily News. It was a long bleak stretch backward from Maury to Peter Finley Dunne and his sagacious, and humane bartender Mr. Dooley.

WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION, on the other hand, was different. I had taken to reading it the past few years, as I understand, many another husband did. Its frank and honest discourses on many social and personal questions of the day impressed me. The magazine was established 83 years back as the Home Companion; and some of our senior readers may remember Gertrude B. Lane, its most famous editor who held the post from 1912 until she died in 1941. Under her guidance the publication grew from 788,000 to more than 3,600,000.

One can well reflect upon the sorry state of journalistic affairs; once upon a time our nation had over 3,000 daily newspapers. Today the number has shrunk to 1,800. This past year three vast periodicals, the American Magazine, Collier's and Woman's Home Companion are gone from the news-stands. And so even the stage for a diversity of viewpoint has shrunk. As we have abundantly heard in the midst of recent political campaigns, American has virtually become a country of a one-party press.

I do not, in conclusion, wish to grind a personal axe, but the fate of these giants of circulation should help our readers understand the burdens a paper like ours shoulders. If periodicals with four million readers cannot make a go of it in this dog-eat-dog economic setup, it is little less than a miracle that our paper can continue to appear.

Could it be that our simple devotion to the principle of peace on earth, good will to men is mightier than the millions of dollars that crossed the palms of Crowell-Collier's?

AFL-CIO Sees Jan. 3 Crucial on Rights

By ABNER W. BERRY

DESPITE the Democratic platform pledge on civil rights legislation and the almost unanimous agreement that such legislation is impossible unless Senate filibusters can be curbed, the effort against the filibuster is still supported by only 12 U. S. Senators. The AFL-CIO News, noting that there are only four Republicans—Thomas Kuchel (Calif), Clifford Case (N.J.), Irving Ives (N.Y.) and Edward J. Thyne (Minn)—declaring for the rule change, declared editorially:

"This year 40 or 47 Republicans will attend the Jan. 3 (1957) session. If the Administration wants civil rights legislation, then these Republicans can quickly demonstrate it by voting for the anti-filibuster revision of Rule 22."

The labor paper stresses the importance of taking the issue up on Jan. 3, when a majority can cut off debate, rather than dallying until later when the old rule will permit a filibuster against which no closure steps can be taken.

Southern Democrats, the AFL-CIO News predicts, will continue to fight for the right to filibuster while northern and western Democrats will vote to change the rule, adding:

"The absolute balance of power will be held by the Republicans."

A CHORUS OF DEMANDS from a variety of organizations joined that of the AFL-CIO News:

- The NAACP national office sent a letter to its branches in 25 states urging visits to U.S. Senators on the issue.

- Negro Ministers formed a National Ministers' Civil Rights Conference to meet in Washington on Jan. 3 to press for action against filibusters, protest the withdrawal of civil rights from George

of seniority and patronage privileges from Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-NY), and to request desegregation enforcement by President Eisenhower and Attorney General Herbert Brownell.

- The American Civil Liberties Union made the fight against the filibuster a part of its program to give support to southerners in their legal fight against segregation.

- In New York, the Liberal Party announced a campaign to collect 300,000 signatures on a petition calling for senatorial action against filibusters.

- The American Jewish Committee asked Congress to abolish filibusters, warning that passage of civil rights legislation would continue to be "extremely remote" unless the senate rules are changed.

BUT, WHILE THE DEMANDS for change mounted, Senate liberals became more timorous, as if caught between the cross-fire of the people's wants and the power still wielded by the Congressional Dixiecrats. On the Republican side there is the comfortable coalition in the Senate with the Dixiecrats that an all-out civil rights fight would impair.

The veteran legislative representative of the NAACP, Clarence Mitchell, writing in the current Baltimore Afro-American points out:

"The real Democratic leadership in the Senate rests somewhere, that they were electing such a liberal majority. For isn't that what the platforms led them to believe?"

gia, and Harry F. Byrd of Virginia."

It was Russell who led the Dixiecrat bloc into the GOP-Dixiecrat alliance in 1949.

Northern Democrats are under pressure from the nominal majority leader Sen. Lydon B. Johnson of Texas, Mitchell to "see things through Russell—colored glasses" if they are to get committee appointments and consideration of their pet bills.

"It is difficult to know what is gained by having Sen. Johnson act as a kind of front man for the arch-foes of civil rights," Mitchell writes. "Democrats who must depend on their civil rights record to get re-elected should demand an opportunity to select another majority leader. Unless they do, they must accept responsibility for the present condition which permits Russell et al. to run things by remote control."

Mitchell's explanation for the slowness of liberal senators was reflected by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in a somewhat pessimistic tone. The League commented last Saturday:

"Until a bi-partisan liberal bloc committed to civil rights wins a comfortable majority in the Senate and House, the chances of a major breakthrough on civil rights will be slim indeed."

Meantime the voters are proceeding on the basis of the fact that they were electing such a liberal majority. For isn't that what the platforms led them to believe?

N.Y. Auto Show Didn't Tell the Detroit Story

DETROIT.—Though the Automobile Manufacturers Association backs of the workers in the process.

HIGH ON THE FINTEILES of the 1957 model rides not only speedup, but automation. Both are now the bane of the auto workers' lives.

Automation has taken a heavy toll of jobs as have runaway shops and plants built at government expense or with fast tax writeoff agreements made with the Cadillac Cabinet members. All this is done in the name of "meet competition" and reduce costs.

The Big Three are bypassing the bare elementary health and safety standards to get production. More workers are being injured, ruptured, lacerated, burned, the Workmen's Compensation Commission says. The death rate has crept up too. This is why strike votes are piling up.

In a UAW poll 85 percent favored the 30 hour week with 40 hours pay. These workers see what's happening behind the chrome and the fintails. After all, Ford made \$145,200,000 profits after taxes the first nine months of 1956, and GM \$639,585,399, while the layoffs among workers got longer, speedup increased: profits continue to mount to an all-time high.

Hence the 30 hour week for 40 hour pay is the overwhelming choice, simultaneously the workers indicate they want wage increases, more pension money, better health and medical care.

You didn't hear any of this at the Coliseum last week.

CTA in Grip Of La Salle St. Bankers

(Continued from Page 16)

could hardly fail to disclose how Chicagoans have been swindled by the La Salle Street bankers—and how this swindle is now taking a terrible toll of lives.

The story can be summarized in terms of that ill-fated wooden car which became the blazing coffin of motorman Daniel Cullen on December 6. That car was built way back in 1906, when the bankers were running the Chicago "L" lines through the Rapid Transit Company.

By 1945, the bankers were no longer able to milk any more profits out of the Rapid Transit Company and the Chicago Surface Lines. They had on their hands an obsolete pile of junk, including hundreds of those ancient wooden "L" cars which are still in use.

The swindle which the bankers devised was to set up the Chicago Transit Authority, to sell the junk to the CTA for the fabulous price of \$90 million, to use this money to buy the high-interest bearing tax-exempt bonds issue of the CTA—thereby retaining control of the transit system under a more profitable arrangement.

THERE ARE three key documents in what Mayor Daley calls "the structure and operation of CTA." One is the 1945 city ordinance which granted a franchise to the CTA.

Secondly, there is the state law, the Metropolitan Transit authority Act, which sets up the CTA, provides that the bankers and bondholders must get their profit at all costs, permit the CTA to set fares, reduce service, operate its lines as it pleases without any control by the public or any public body.

Thirdly, there is the Trust Agreement, between the CTA and the First National Bank, which represents the bondholders. This agreement gives the bank the final veto power over the CTA in the matter of budgets, financing, revenue, fares, etc.

IT IS THE last of these three documents which gives the bankers the right to determine what kind of service Chicagoans are going to get, how safe it will be to travel the CTA, how much is to be taken out of the pockets of the people of this city in fares.

But those who have studied the CTA set-up say it is possible to curb the bankers' control through either of the two other key documents.

The 1945 city ordinance states that a franchise is granted to the CTA on the basis that it will furnish "attractive, convenient, efficient and economical transportation service" to the city that could not possibly serve as a description of CTA's current operation.

IT IS POINTED out that by claiming the CTA is violating this franchise, the city could cancel it—or threaten to cancel it unless certain improvements in the CTA are made.

As for the state law which set up CTA, it could be revised by the session of the Legislature which begins in the next ten days.

The main provision of that law says, in effect that the CTA must pay expenses, raise fares in order to guarantee that the bondholders get \$4 million in interest each year—interest at extortionate rates of up to six percent on bonds that are tax-free and risk-free!

SECTION 30 of the Metropolitan Transit Authority Act reads as follows:

"The CTA Board shall fix rates, fares and charges for transportation, provided that they shall be at all times sufficient in the aggregate to provide revenues (a) for the payment of the interest on and principal of all bonds. . . ."

With such a policy of "Profits First," is it any wonder that the CTA's practice is "Safety Last!"

Readers Have Varied Replies on Features

ANALYZING a second group of responses to a recent questionnaire on The Worker, it is clear that most of the readers find the editorials helpful.

A number of the replies carried sharp critical comments on recent editorials which criticized the Soviet Union.

However, the overwhelming reaction was that the editorials are read regularly, they are a helpful guide to action, they are not too long or too "preachy." There was a sizeable group of readers who said the editorials often "lack punch."

THE comments on features and columns in the paper are much more varied. The movie reviews received top vote.

A large number of readers replied that they "never read" the art, music, TV reviews or the women's page. Others expressed sharp criticism of the women's page. One reader wrote in the words, "disgraceful."

The book reviews received some favorable response, as did the TV columns of Ben Levine. But music and art appeared as subjects on which our readers found little of interest in the paper.

THERE was one reply that was almost unanimous—that our readers do not want fiction in the paper. There were a few who said they

preferred serialized novels or novelettes.

Almost as unanimous, the questionnaires called for more features on American history in the columns of The Worker.

The majority of readers said they were not in favor of more poetry. Some commented that the poems which do appear in The Worker are hard to understand.

THE series of questions dealing with preference on regular columnists drew a variety of reactions. Of those listed, there were three who received the best response: George Morris, Howard Fast, Abner Berry. These three columnists, the readers indicated, are read regularly, and not one of the replies considered them as "poor."

The only one who had some "poor" reactions was columnist Joe Clark. However, these reactions were in almost every case from people who also commented that they disagreed with Clark's views on the Soviet Union and on the recent events in Eastern Europe. On the other hand, another large group of replies praised Clark highly.

There were a heavily favorable reaction to the columns of Joseph North, but some readers regarded him as "fair" while others commented that his column is "spotty" and there were a few who said they never read it.

(To Be Continued)

Farmers Defeat Benson Program

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—A new phase of the struggle between the nation's farmers and the Eisenhower administration farm program was seen developing here this week following the corn control referendum.

In the voting, farmers rejected the new program favored by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson. Corn growers voted instead to stick with an old program authorized in 1938, even with its shortcomings.

Ralph Bradley, president of the Illinois Farmers Union, stated here that the voting results should be interpreted as a repudiation of Benson. The state farm leader said that "President Eisenhower should replace Benson with a man in whom the farmers have confidence."

"IN the overall interest of the entire corn program," Bradley declared, "Benson should be instructed by the President to list the maximum loan price of corn under the 1956 farm act at 90 percent of parity at \$1.55 a bushel."

The negative vote on the new soil bank base acreage plan had the effect of curbing the power of Benson to determine controls and support prices. The vote was also seen as a protest against the fact that the administration has been cutting back aid to the farmers since the election, stopping pro-

grams which pumped more money into benefits for farmers in the period of the election campaign.

The referendum was called "bewildering" in the way it was set up, allowing farmers very little choice. Many failed to vote. In fact, it was pointed out that the vote against the Benson plan would have been even higher had the issue been more clear-cut.

IN Illinois, the bigger farm operators turned out heavily for the plan, resulting in an 80 percent vote in favor of the Benson program. However, nationwide, the plan fell far short of the 66 percent needed.

In McLean County, Illinois, the vote was 84 percent in favor of the Benson plan. However, only one-third of the eligible farmers cast ballots. In LaSalle County, farmers voted 1,299 to 406 in favor of the new plan, with only half of those eligible taking part.

Nationwide, the corn referendum produced 257,874 for the new proposal and 163,227 for the old one. This majority of 61.2 fell short of the two-thirds vote needed by the administration for adoption.

This voting, coming on the heels of the November elections in which a sizeable number of farmers left the Republican Party, was seen as marking a new phase of the struggle of the farmers for higher income.

Arthritis Pill Firm Found Guilty

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The U. S. Court of Appeals today found the Dolcin Corp. of New York and three officers guilty of criminal contempt for continuing to advertise their product as a "fast-acting, long-lasting" remedy for arthritis and other painful ailments.

The officers, Victor Van Der Linde, board chairman; George Shimmerlik, treasurer; and Albert T. Wantz, secretary, were instructed to appear Jan. 14 for a hearing to determine their punishment.

The Federal Trade Commission first complained about the advertising of Dolcin tablets in mid-1949.

In 1955, the court barred a type of radio commercial which the commission found to be false advertising.

Last June the commission asked that the corporation and the three officers be adjudged in contempt of court for violating the decree.

SHOP TALK

ORGANIZING the white collar workers is the big push now by the AFL-CIO. To help get things started here, a three-day institute will be held at Roosevelt University Jan. 10-12. Here will be aired some of the knotty problems which have traditionally stood in the way of unionizing the office workers, clerks, government workers, etc.

THE unions here brought in 1,100 members to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in the drive just completed. The AFL-CIO locals that participated got credit last week for doing a job second only to that performed by the churches.

The Chicago-area railroad workers are especially proud of the rise of movie star Kim Novak, formerly of Chicago. She is the daughter of Joseph Novak, a clerk in the Galewood, Illinois freight office of the Milwaukee Road.

THE International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has moved into the field of helping its members buy homes. The IBEW has secured authorization from the FHA to use its funds to finance mortgages.

PAT Greathouse, UAW vice-president, gave the Farm Bureau, some straight talk at the conservative farm organization's convention in Miami last week. Greathouse told them that labor has a big stake in helping farmers get a fair share of earnings, underscoring the point by showing what poor farm income has done to farm equipment workers' jobs.

ONE of the big issues, being weighed by the U.S. Supreme Court right now centers around the case of John T. Watkins, the Quad-Cities UAW man who refused to give a lot of names to the House Un-American Committee.

THE recent UAW Skilled Trades Conference in Chicago highlighted the problem which the union is having at some plants with what is called "bastard" classifications through which one worker performs many skilled jobs. One of these is the classification of "Automation Equipment Maker and Repairman," which the UAW has just succeeded in eliminating at the new Ford Stamping Plant in Chicago Heights.

THE National Association of Manufacturers has a cute new gimmick for explaining away the inequitable sales tax such as we have in Illinois. Says the NAM: "It's the fairest tax, falling equally on those who can afford it—and those who can't."

VISITS, GREETINGS COULD MAKE SEASON BRIGHT FOR SAM HAMMERSMARK

CHICAGO—One Chicagoan who is hoping to hear from a good many of his friends this holiday season is Sam Hammersmark.

This well-loved old-timer of the labor movement, ill and confined, is living today at a rest home.

Hammersmark will be 84 his next birthday. His active participation in labor and progressive struggles goes back to the days of Haymarket Frameup. His associates have included Clarence Darrow, Jane Addams, Gov. John Altgeld, Edgar Lee Masters and Carl Sandburg.

In recent years, Sam Hammersmark was well known as the manager of the Modern Book Store, 64 W. Randolph St.

He is living today at the Schwied Rest Home, 4542 N. Malden. The holiday season could be brightened for him by a number of token greetings, visits, cards.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

Why Is Plight of Some Downtrodden Forgotten?

The following is by a Chicago Daily Defender columnist, Lee Blackwell:

THIS IS A CRAZY, mixed-up world, Freedom fighters are called "rebels" in Algeria and "patriots" in Hungary. There is no question about the need for Hungarian relief. But why is the plight of other downtrodden people who have felt the boot of tyranny in their faces almost completely forgotten? And why is it that many Negroes who seldom give time or money to the NAACP on so ready to shell out plenty for Hungarian relief.

DON'T GET ME WRONG. I think the Hungarian people deserve high praise and support for their courage in resisting Russian tyranny. But Negro leaders and the rank and file of Negroes in America must continue to fight for first-class citizenship in the land that is their home.

American born Negroes who love America must stare job discrimination in the face day after day. But Hungarian refugees come here and are given jobs immediately along with the benefits of first-class citizenship which are de-

nied Negroes in America.

America is a free country and for hundreds of years has been the racial melting pot of the world. Our great land has traditionally welcomed the persecuted from all shores.

But why must we let a discriminatory law, like the McCarran-Walter Act, remain on our books—when it brazenly limits immigration of darker races to this country.

It's time we set the record straight.

What's On?

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, Dec. 22, at 1:30 p.m. at the Cultural Hall, 1150 North 4th St.—Fourth annual Christmas-Chanukah Children's party, sponsored by the families of the Philadelphia Smith Act defendants.

FRIDAY, DEC. 28 at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. at the Plescher Auditorium, 401 South Broad St.—Pied Piper Productions "Merry-Go-Rounders" (ballet for children). Admission \$1.25 to \$2.25.

SATURDAY, DEC. 29, at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. at the Academy of Music—presentation of "Peter and Wolf" and three ballets from "Hansel and Gretel" and "The Nutcracker" by The Children's Theater. Admission 52 cents to \$1.95.

A Holiday Suggestion

SINCE this is a gift season, we have a suggestion for the loyal readers and supporters of our paper.

Our financial needs have never been greater.

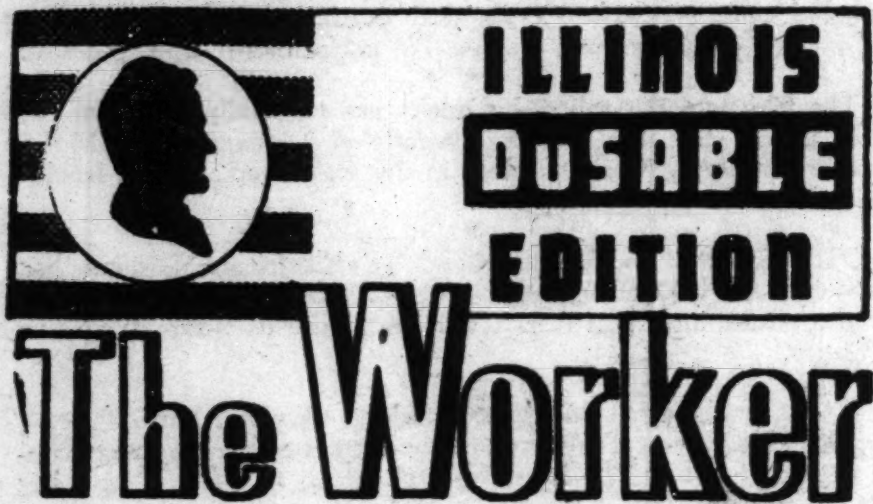
Illinois readers have made some valiant efforts to help. A group of North Side trade unions last week brought in \$100, the proceeds of a house party.

But still we are far short of our needs, and also far short of what other states are doing in this

drive to guarantee the survival of our paper.

We suggest that a holiday gift to The Worker would be very welcome. Send it to The Worker, 36 W. Randolph, Room 806, Chicago 1, Ill.

It would be appreciated as a token of faith in the paper and of thanks for its services. Such a little gift from hundreds of Illinois readers would also go a surprisingly long way in curing our paper of what ails it.



THE WORKER, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1956

CFL Asks Mayor Daley To Halt Illegal Jim Crow in Hospitals

CHICAGO. — Mayor Richard J. Daley was handed a request from the Chicago Federation of Labor this week that he take steps to stop several Chicago hospitals from illegally discriminating against Negro patients.

The Mayor was reminded that this practice was declared unlawful by a City Council ordinance and that "such violations be immediately acted upon and the full penalties of the law be brought to bear against those institutions which violate this ordinance."

The CFL passed a resolution at its December meeting which noted that anti-discrimination law was being violated. It was

pointed out by the federation that "many hospitals are circumventing the law by such practices as assigning only private rooms to Negro patients."

The law-breaking was brought to the attention of the CFL executive board by James H. Kemp, president of the Building Service Employees Local 189.

The full meeting of the federation then asked the Mayor to take action against "the un-American practice of segregation and discrimination against Negroes and other racial groups by some of the hospitals in our city."

SALES TAX MAKES THE RICH RICHER AND THE POOR POORER



—From the AFL Labor's Economic Review

Illinois Among Worst in Taxes

CHICAGO.—Illinois is one of the worst states in the U. S., from the standpoint of saddling the lowest-income families with the main burden of state taxation.

The fact stood out in a new survey published by the AFL-CIO in its Labor's Economic Review.

With 82 percent of its total state revenue derived from sales and excise taxes, Illinois has the third highest percentage of taxation in the U. S. from this source.

The AFL-CIO survey also disclosed that Illinois is one of the 13 states in the U. S. which has no tax on the income of individuals at all and no tax on the profits of corporations.

It was pointed out that the opening of the Legislature affords an opportunity to fight against "the kind of taxes that inflict the greatest burden on families least able to pay."

In Illinois also, the defeat of

the Blue Ballot last November stopped an effort by the big corporations to put a permanent ban on a state income tax.



CTA in Deadly Grip Of Transit Bankers

By CARL HIRSCH

CHICAGO

These days, Chicago transit riders are more than ever fearful, frustrated and fed-up. The quickening series of tragedies on the CTA has frightened them badly.

The blustery winter months show up the miserable CTA service at its worst. And the threat is that now fares are to go up to 25 cents.

What most riders suspect but do not fully realize is that there is a common source for all three of these bitter complaints.

It comes down to the fact that the CTA is not the property of the people of Chicago. It is the captive of the bankers, specifically the First National Bank of Chicago, and the bondholders of the CTA for whom that bank acts as trustee.

WHILE the transit riders are worried for fear they won't get home alive, the First National Bank is also worried. The bankers are concerned that the latest series of gruesome disasters on the CTA has endangered the possibility of raising fares once again.

But the spokesman for the

bank, a Mr. Gilman Smith, has made it clear that the fare boost must come. Mr. Smith is a consulting engineer of the firm of W. C. Gilman and Co. This firm is hired by the First National Bank of Chicago to determine when a fare boost is "necessary."

What gives the bank this power? The power is written into Trust Agreement between the CTA and the First National Bank as trustee for the bondholders. That agreement states that change in fares are to be approved by a consulting engineer "acceptable to the trustee."

THE TRAGIC coincidence however, was that Mr. Gilman Smith's fare boost proposal came on December 6. And on December 7, Chicagoans were horrified by the latest in the series of "L" train tragedies, the explosion and flash fire of a wooden-car train on the Howard St. line.

It was disclosed this week by General Manager Walter J. McCarter that the CTA had "saved money" by not installing the necessary fuse boxes in the wooden cars—in spite of the fact scores of Chicagoans had al-

ready died in these "rolling coffins."

CTA had also "saved money" in failing to install the block signal system which would have prevented the tragedy of November 5 in which eight persons lost their lives at Wilson Avenue.

THE RECORD of "saving money" at the cost of lives goes back to numerous disasters, including the May 25, 1950 crash at 63rd and States, where 33 persons burned to death in a street car and a coroner's jury found that "emergency facilities on the TCA are entirely inadequate."

This week, a number of disturbed Chicagoans were finding out that in order to examine why the CTA has callous policy toward the safety of its riders, it is necessary to look into the matter of who really controls the transit system.

With the city seething with anger, Mayor Daley issued a statement rejecting the proposed increase in fare and suggesting that "the entire structure and operation of CTA" be reviewed.

SUCH A REVIEW, if it comes,

(Continued on Page 15)

What Every Straphanger Should Know About CTA

Q. Is the Chicago Transit Authority run through public ownership?

A. No. The CTA is capitalized through the sale of \$105 million worth of bonds, held by a group of private bankers and investors. The ownership of these bonds is actually the ownership of CTA. The owners are guaranteed a big profit in the form of interest on these bonds which runs as high as six percent.

Q. Who runs the CTA?

A. The final authority is in the hands of the bankers and bondholders. They control the seven-member CTA Board. They are the beneficiaries of the state law setting up CTA which guarantees them their profit first. They are represented by the First National Bank of Chicago which, as trustee for the CTA, holds a Trust Agreement which further strengthens the bankers' control.

Q. Doesn't the public have anything to say about the CTA?

A. Not officially. As distinct

from the other public transportation and public utilities in the state, the CTA is not required to get approval from the Illinois Commerce Commission or any other public body on matters of fares, service, etc.

Q. Is there anything the city government of Chicago can do about service and fares?

A. Yes. The city can revoke the franchise which is being violated because the CTA has pledged to provide "attractive, convenient, efficient and economical transportation."

Q. How can control of CTA be taken from the bankers?

A. Through changing the state law which gave them complete authority and failed to provide any curbs against the abuse of this authority.

Q. Is there any justification for a fare increase to 25 cents?

A. No. This would make Chicago's fares again the highest in the nation. It would mean that fares have been increased eight times since CTA was begun in

1947—when it was still possible to ride anywhere in Chicago for a dime.

Q. What about the proposal that the CTA be subsidized from public funds?

A. In the first place, the CTA is already being subsidized, for example: it is tax exempt; it uses the subways which the city built at a cost of \$75 million. The key thing in any further proposal for a public subsidy is to make certain that the public is given some control over the CTA.

Q. What is the most practical way to halt a new fare increase?

A. This can be achieved through a three-pronged struggle by the people of Chicago: (a) to organize mass resistance and protest directed toward the CTA Board; (b) to compel the City of Chicago to take action against a boost; (c) to demand that the Illinois Legislature revise the state law on CTA, giving the public some veto power over unwarranted fare increases.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT CTA

IF EVER the people of Chicago needed leadership and organization on a burning issue, it is now when the CTA bosses have proved themselves unfit to run the city's public transportation system.

The unfortunate thing is that no one group has stepped forward to show the way. Back in '49, the Communist Party of Illinois carried the fight against a fare increase into the public hearing room of the CTA.

In that year, it was the Progressive Party that conducted a most effective struggle actually stopping the fare boost temporarily through a court injunction.

In later years, 1951 and 1954, the Republican Party stepped in and tried to make partisan use of the mass indignation against a fare increase. And of course, that produced nothing but new fare hikes for straphangers of Chicago.

This time, it is possible to win some advances in the long fight against the transit barons who control the CTA.

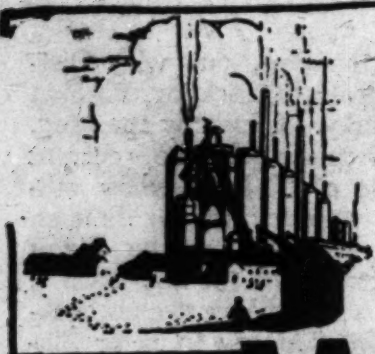
But such victories are possible only if the people's organizations get into the fight. Those labor and liberal forces who worked so hard in the recent elections must now move into the

transit situation.

Lacking a specific organization to lead and coordinate, it is up to every group to do its part. With indignation running high, the issue is not "out of order" on the floor of any union meeting or community gathering.

We ask every reader of our paper to begin with a letter to your own alderman or legislator, get a few of your friends to do the same, and place this simple type of action before your club, your lodge, your local union.

There is enough anger in Chicago today to get some changes for the better in CTA.



Michigan edition The Worker

Reentered as second class matter Oct. 22, 1947, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879

Vol. XXI, No. 23
(16 Pages)

December 23, 1956
Price 10 Cents

A Merry Christmas

TO OUR READERS and partners in our publishing enterprise, the heartiest of holiday greetings!

Our joint efforts have pulled us through another rough year, the 33rd since the Daily Worker was founded (as of the coming January 13th), and the 20th since we launched the weekly Worker.

The path of workingclass papers devoted to socialism has never been smooth in our country. Our Marxist movement has the proud distinction of having maintained a daily English-language newspaper far longer than any previous one in U. S. history. The Worker is rapidly approaching that distinction for socialist-oriented weeklies.

★ WHY is it so tough to maintain such a paper? Why can it exist only through the self-sacrificing efforts and contributions of its body of readers (or, in the case of the trade union press, through an organization's treasury)?

The folding of Collier's and Woman's Home Companion announced last weekend, provides a clue. Here are two publications with millions of readers. They could not make a go of it because advertising fell off. The average newspaper in this

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**COMMUNIST PARTY LEADERS URGE
SUPPORT TO THE WORKER SUB DRIVE**

—See page 5

Folsom Aide Tells 'Worker' Of St-90 Talks

Other developments in the fallout arena are:

- N. Y. State Medical Society and N. Y. State Public Health Department schedule conference on milk contamination for Feb. 20.
- Wisconsin CIO will press for state law requiring tests of air and soil for strontium-90.
- United Nations Radiation Committee asks 87 nations to submit information.

For details see page 4.

By VIRGINIA GARDNER

THE Department of Health, Education and Welfare is holding conferences on the subject of radiostrontium and other radioactivity now-present in the environment, a spokesman for the department told The Worker last week. The hazard to living, particularly infants and growing children, of internal radiation and its genetic effects, in the public debate over continued testing of high-yield bombs.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare was queried by The Worker on what it was doing in regard to strontium-90, potential cancer agent, whose presence in the nation's milk supply was revealed by Adlai Stevenson in the presidential campaign.

An aide to Marion Folsom, Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, was asked if Folsom could be reached by the reporter to find out about any activities investigating strontium-90.

"And what in the world would that be?" the aide asked.

She was told that it was the most poisonous of the fission products contained in fallout from nuclear bomb tests, that the Atomic Energy Commission had revealed now it had been testing metropolitan New York milkshed milk and

soil since early 1954 and other milk since 1955. She was asked also to tell Folsom that in Rochester, his home town, a proposal to institute tests of the milk there for strontium-90 is under consideration by the city board of health.

She said she thought it would "be a subject Mr. Folsom would not want to make a public statement on," but that she would see "who is 'up' on this problem" and have him call the reporter.

★ THE SPOKESMAN, calling later, pointed out that "this is a very broad subject and the Department's interest in it is very broad and it is engaged in many cooperative efforts" with other large organizations. These, he said, included the AEC, Department of Defense, the health departments of about 40 states, and professional societies, including medical, nuclear physicists and

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Reporter Looks for and Finds Xmas Spirit

By LESTER RODNEY

THE IDEA WAS to put on the reportorial walking shoes and get some week-before-Christmas sentiments and outlook. As we started west along 14th Street, here seemed little Christmas bubble in the air. There were no sidewalk Santa Clauses or tinkling bells, no window displays, not much in the way of crowds carrying bundles. Ohrbachs has moved, there are bleak empty For Rent signs where Hearns once teemed this time of year and downtown a bit Wanamakers is no more. It is a bypassed shopping area. In a Woolworth store a sales person said "slower than last year."

Uptown in the 20's, a retail and wholesale outlet house reported that "everyone is crying around here." It seems the pinch of the steady move to the suburbs of both affluent customers and shopping areas is suddenly adding up. "We're busy, mind you," was the admonition, "It's not dead, but it's not the big thing it was." For small businesses, this has to be the period to make up for all the year's slack, and to do that it has to be not busy, but frantic, unbelievable.

Another small businessman got

into the conversation, agreed it was slow, but said he expected to be busy early January. "Money is tighter than it was," he said, "But after some of the Christmas bonuses I look for a

rush."

IN A WESTERN UNION office, I was informed that there was a sharp uptake in telegrams to out of town places in this last week. "You'd never realize how

many New Yorkers didn't come from New York but have family all over the country," I was told. I asked about the Christmas greeting forms, with suggested verses. Do most make up their

own, or use the forms?

"The forms," was the answer, "with some exceptions. You'd be surprised, just a while ago someone came in, he must have I don't know how much money, he just said send one of the nice poems."

I looked at the poems. They are no threat to Walt Whitman. Here is one: "When you gather round the Christmas tree, read this message and think of me. Love." The word "love" can be added to any form for only a few cents, you are advised.

Moving up Chelsea's West Side, I chatted with a few housewives coming out of stores with bundles. In the pleasant glow that seems to go with buying presents, they didn't seem to believe that a reporter just casually passing by was seriously interested in how things were going for them, this Christmas, better or worse, and the best I can report for my efforts were the pleasantly bantering "Sure, we could always use some money for Christmas, you giving out an?" and "Give us a good write-up, I spent over \$12 today."

Passing the main postoffice, I noticed a group of several hun-

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Ebenezer Scrooge, Publisher

By JOSEPH NORTH

WHEN the Woman's Home Companion and Collier's went down last week the fall should have roared through the land like giant

pinetrees that top in a forest. These magazines had enormous circulations—over four million each. They had a history, the Companion was established in 1873, and Collier's, which was established in 1888, once enjoyed the regular writings and editings in its pages of such literary stalwarts as Finley Peter Dunne (Mr. Dooley), Ring Lardner, H. C. Wells, Rudyard Kipling, Mark Twain and Norman Hapgood.

Both had authority, history and readers—everything but enough of the dollars that advertising brings. We are told both lost \$7,500,000 this past year. Paul C. Smith, president and chairman of Crowell-Collier, parent firm of the two, said cryptically the losses were due to rising costs and falling revenue.

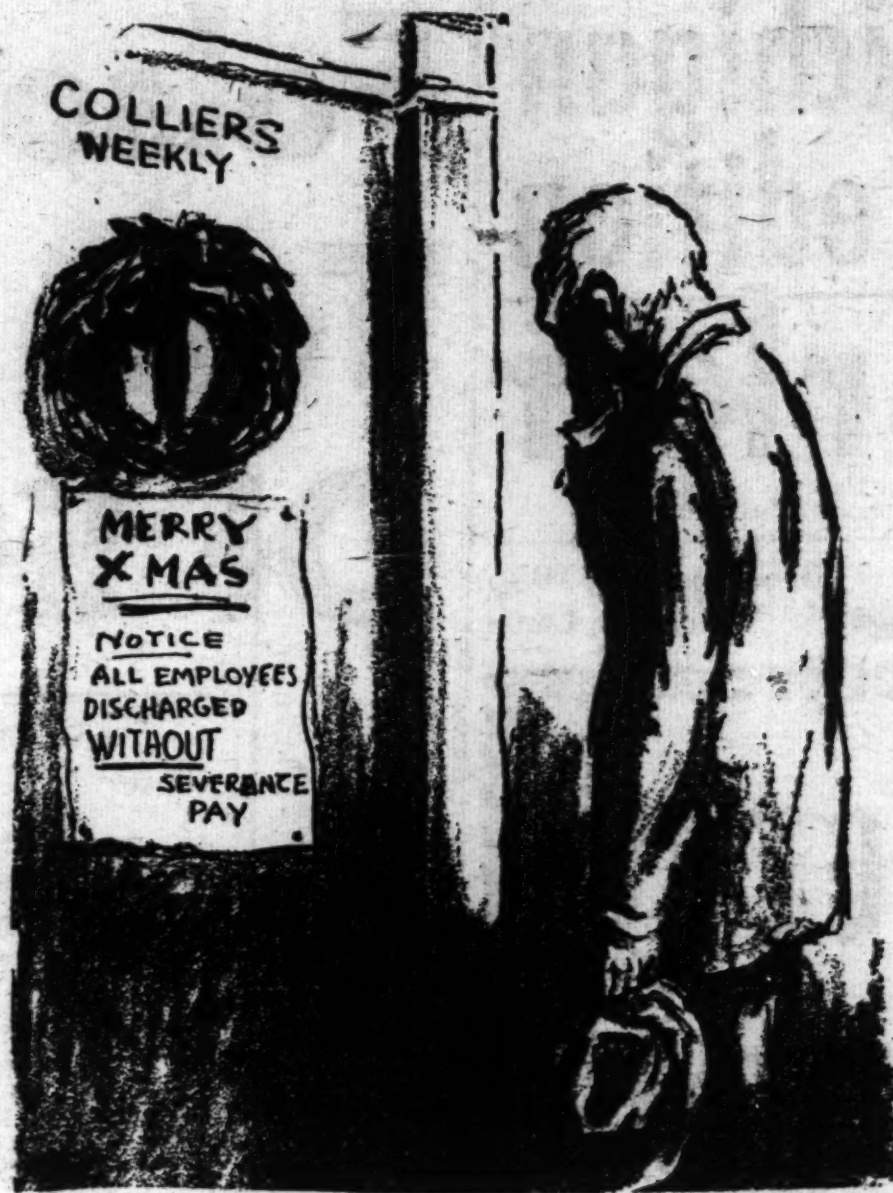
Mr. Smith said the disappearance of these two publications will "affect" over 2,400 employees. But he did not have the courage to spell that out. Theodore H. White, senior writer for Collier's, and spokesman for the committee, did: these men and women who worked without ben-

efit of a trade union will lose their jobs without a cent of severance pay, old age pensions, anything that would keep them a step ahead of the poorhouse. Some worked here 30 years; an elderly switchboard operator, half a century.

It is brutal, too, that the Board of Directors refused to lift a finger to help the employees buy the magazines. "We were told," White reports, "that we have to raise \$2 million within a day if we wanted to save the magazines." He intimated that if he were given time, the minimal offering the publishers granted under the cruel circumstances, the employees could have raised the appropriate sum. Even that dispensation was denied them.

SO, ON THE EVE of Merry Christmas when the publishers devote considerable space and time to declare their adherence to the Christly creed (when the carols are sounding on the radio) these veteran employees face bleak times.

I wonder how J. Patrick Lannan, the Chicago financier who moved in last week as a director and chairman of the publishing firm, will enjoy the egg-nog of Yule as he contemplates, (which he may, who knows?) his Scrooge-like decision to turn these old and faithful workers out into the cold. (It was his decision to chop the giant pines down.) Even medieval old King Wenceslas called for his page to locate the poor and feed them Christmas gruel. Lannan went no further than to



promise a "job-placement bureau" on the premises.

And Smith, once known as the boy-wonder when he edited the San Francisco News Chronicle in his late twenties, and who has grown up to be the president of the Crowell-Collier firm, said piously, "The stockholders of our company number more than 7,000, and it is the primary duty of their board and chief executive officer to protect their investment."

SO WE SEE, even at Christ-

mas time, the dominant ethic that reigns over the capitalist order of society: Protect your investment, and let men starve as they may.

There is perhaps another fact to this journalistic phenomenon. How is it that two periodicals of circulations surpassing four and a quarter million each, couldn't make ends meet? The number of readers would indicate some considerable degree of loyalty and affection for the periodicals.

Personally, I have little brief for Collier's editorial policy which, I feel, has slid downhill for some years, hitting a low and dismal point when it devoted an issue virtually to exhorting a war between the USA and USSR, and gloated that "Guys and Dolls" would be playing the boards in the Moscow Bolshoi theatre after we got through with benighted Russians. Down

with Ulyanova, out with Oistrakh, death to Chekhov, Pushkin and Gorky. Generally speaking, this represented the current thinking of Collier's, whose editorials were written by Reuben Maury, the genius who writes the editorials on the Daily News. It was a long bleak stretch backward from Maury to Peter Finley Dunne and his sagacious, and humane bartender Mr. Dooley.

WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION, on the other hand, was different. I had taken to reading it the past few years, as I understand, many another husband did. Its frank and honest discourses on many social and personal questions of the day impressed me. The magazine was established 83 years back as the Home Companion; and some of our senior readers may remember Gertrude B. Lane, its most famous editor who held the post from 1912 until she died in 1941. Under her guidance the publication grew from 788,000 to more than 3,600,000.

One can well reflect upon the sorry state of journalistic affairs; once upon a time our nation had over 3,000 daily newspapers. Today the number has shrunk to 1,800. This past year three vast periodicals, the American Magazine, Collier's and Woman's Home Companion are gone from the news-stands. And so even the stage for a diversity of viewpoint has shrunk. As we have abundantly heard in the midst of recent political campaigns, American has virtually become a country of a one-party press.

I do not, in conclusion, wish to grind a personal axe, but the fate of these giants of circulation should help our readers understand the burdens a paper like ours shoulders. If periodicals with four million readers cannot make a go of it in this dog-eat-dog economic setup, it is little less than a miracle that our paper can continue to appear.

Could it be that our simple devotion to the principle of peace on earth, good will to men is mightier than the millions of dollars that crossed the palms of Crowell-Collier's?

AFL-CIO Sees Jan. 3 Crucial on Rights

By ABNER W. BERRY

DESPITE the Democratic platform pledge on civil rights legislation and the almost unanimous agreement that such legislation is impossible unless Senate filibusters can be curbed, the effort against the filibuster is still supported by only 12 U. S. Senators. The AFL-CIO News, noting that there are only four Republicans—Thomas Kuchel (Calif.), Clifford Case (N.J.), Irving Ives (N.Y.) and Edward J. Thye (Minn)—declaring for the rule change, declared editorially:

"This year 46 or 47 Republicans will attend the Jan. 3 (1957) session. If the Administration wants civil rights legislation, then these Republicans can quickly demonstrate it by voting for the anti-filibuster revision of Rule 22."

The labor paper stresses the importance of taking the issue up on Jan. 3, when a majority can cut off debate, rather than dallying until later when the old rule will permit a filibuster against which no closure steps can be taken.

Southern Democrats, the AFL-CIO News predicts, will continue to fight for the right to filibuster while northern and western Democrats will vote to change the rule, adding:

"The absolute balance of power will be held by the Republicans."

A CHORUS OF DEMANDS from a variety of organizations joined that of the AFL-CIO News:

- The NAACP national office sent a letter to its branches in 25 states urging visits to U.S. Senators on the issue.
- Negro Ministers formed a National Ministers' Civil Rights Conference to meet in Washington on Jan. 3 to press for action against filibusters, protest the withdrawal

of seniority and patronage privileges from Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-N.Y.), and to request desegregation enforcement by President Eisenhower and Attorney General Herbert Brownell.

- The American Civil Liberties Union made the fight against the filibuster a part of its program to give support to southerners in their legal fight against segregation.
- In New York, the Liberal Party announced a campaign to collect 300,000 signatures on a petition calling for senatorial action against filibusters.
- The American Jewish Committee asked Congress to abolish filibusters, warning that passage of civil rights legislation would continue to be "extremely remote" unless the senate rules are changed.

BUT, WHILE THE DEMANDS for change mounted, Senate liberals became more timorous, as if caught between the cross-fire of the people's wants and the power still wielded by the Congressional Dixiecrats. On the Republican side there is the comfortable coalition in the Senate with the Dixiecrats that an all-out civil rights fight would impair.

The veteran legislative representative of the NAACP, Clarence Mitchell, writing in the current Baltimore Afro-American points out:

"The real Democratic leadership in the Senate rests somewhere between Richard Russell, unreeling civil rights foe from Georgia, and Harry F. Byrd of Virginia."

It was Russell who led the Dixiecrat bloc into the GOP-Dixiecrat alliance in 1949.

Northern Democrats are under pressure from the nominal majority leader Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas, Mitchell to "see things through Russell - colored glasses" if they are to get committee appointments and consideration of their pet bills.

"It is difficult to know what is gained by having Sen. Johnson act as a kind of front man for the arch foes of civil rights," Mitchell writes. "Democrats who must depend on their civil rights record to get re-elected should demand an opportunity to select another majority leader. Unless they do, they must accept responsibility for the present condition which permits Russell et al. to run things by remote control."

Mitchell's explanation for the slowness of liberal senators was reflected by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in a somewhat pessimistic tone. The League commented last Saturday:

"Until a bi-partisan liberal bloc committed to civil rights wins a comfortable majority in the Senate and House, the chances of a major breakthrough on civil rights will be slim indeed."

Meantime the voters are proceeding on the basis of the fact that they were electing such a liberal majority. For isn't that what the platforms led them to believe?

N.Y. Auto Show Didn't Tell the Detroit Story

DETROIT.—Though the Automobile Manufacturers Association is reported to have spent \$11½ million to launch the 1957 cars at the National Auto Show in New York last week, it did not tell the entire truth about the automotive industry.

This was left unsaid: 1. Unemployment in Michigan, primarily among auto workers, has grown from 83,000 last year to 140,000 this year.

2. Although Harlow Curtice, of General Motors, Henry Ford II, and other tycoons predict a 6½ million new car season, a survey by a national magazine, Colliers, predicts it will be a 5½ million season. That would mean at least a 3½ month layoff for 5-10 year seniority people.

The big auto show at the New York Coliseum did not—amidst the soft lights, heavenly music and Madison Avenue halleluia—quote a single word of Walter Reuther, UAW head. He said that the price boosts this year—as high as \$600 a car—will mean 100,000 jobs less. A million Americans less will buy, Reuther said, because they are unable to meet the price or the payments.

Further, omitted from the Coliseum jubilee was the fact that GM's Fisher, Chrysler, Highland Park, Dodge Main, and at least a dozen other plants are taking strike votes.

The hard fact is that a wild production battle rage among the three remaining giants of the industry: GM, Ford, Chrysler. Each is trying to crack all past produc-

tion records even if it breaks the backs of the workers in the process.

HIGH ON THE FINTAILS of the 1957 model rides not only speedup, but automation. Both are now the bane of the auto workers' lives.

Automation has taken a heavy toll of jobs as have runaway shops and plants built at government expense or with fast tax writeoff agreements made with the Cadillac Cabinet members. All this is done in the name of "meet competition" and reduce costs.

The Big Three are bypassing the bare elementary health and safety standards to get production. More workers are being injured, ruptured, lacerated, burned, the Workmen's Compensation Commission says. The death rate has crept up too. This is why strike votes are piling up.

In a UAW poll 85 percent favored the 30 hour week with 40 hours pay. These workers see what's happening behind the chrome and the fintails. After all, Ford made \$145,200,000 profits after taxes the first nine months of 1956, and GM \$639,585,399, while the layoffs among workers got longer, speedup increased: profits continue to mount to an all-time high.

Hence the 30 hour week for 40 hour pay is the overwhelming choice, simultaneously the workers indicate they want wage increases, more pension money, better health and medical care.

You didn't hear any of this at the Coliseum last week.

AUTOTOWN ALLEY

by THE OLD-TIMER

WILL the Republicans or Democrats nominate a Negro attorney for one of the 2 vacancies coming up in the spring elections for the State Supreme Court in Michigan?

SOME of these characters "Soapy" Williams nominated for judgeships nobody ever heard of them particularly doing anything for labor or the peoples movement.

THE CONVENTION CALL to the 16th Constitutional Convention of the International Union, United Automobile, Aircraft, Agricultural Implement Workers of America, UAW, to be held in Convention Hall, Atlantic City, New Jersey, April 7th through April 12th, 1957, is now in the hands of 1,200 local unions in the U. S. and Canada.

FORD LOCAL No. 600 Executive Board is not in favor of the 50c increase in monthly dues, proposed by the UAW International. Be too bad if this issue becomes a factional fight, the bosses are the main enemy.

INTERNATIONAL UAW advised locals they will not hold a Xmas Party for the retirees this year.

HEARD \$40,000 collected by the entire UAW for Hungary of which the International gave \$25,000. Local 600, the biggest local gave \$4,870. Dodge Main, Dodge Truck, DeSoto, Plymouth locals we hear had no collections, plantwide.

DETROIT'S Housing Commission griping because they can't get money for a \$20,000,000 housing project that would provide homes for the aged. Don't Mark Hurley, Housing Commission Secretary and Durban, Mayor Cobo's appointee to head the Commission, remember when Cobo and his pals, sabotaged Detroit getting 30,000 new non-segregated housing units for which the Federal Housing Authority was willing to pay 90 percent of the costs.

EFFORTS of UAW to bring better health and medical care to Detroit as expected have been labelled "Socialism". Reuther wants to end the monopoly of Blue Cross which "handles" medical needs for practically all Detroit workers. Reuther has called a Medical and Health conference out of which a program to aid the sick will come, January 11-12th, at the Whittier Hotel, near Solidarity House, 8,000 East Jefferson. Some 46 physicians, will be present to help the union map a program. Blue Cross don't like it.

WE WONDER how far the U. S. Justice Department will get in its investigation into General Motors spending \$70 million a year for advertising, look into GM requiring its dealers to kick in an additional \$90 million to GM's advertising budget.

UNITED Mine Workers, District 50, just won a 40c an hour wage boost for its members at the Dow Chemical Co. at Ludington, Mich.

ONE HUNDRED Michigan high school students, musicians, will tour Poland next summer. They are members of the National High School Orchestra from Interlochen, Michigan.

A PLANT at Point Edward, Canada under UAW contract Holmes Foundry, a producer of engine blocks for the Ford Motor Co. has laid off its entire work force for at least 6 months due to overproduction. A strike last summer by the workers protested the inhuman speedup of the company. A work force of 400 had previously produced 664 engine blocks a day for Ford. The introduction of automated machines led to the establishment of a production target of 900 blocks a day by 280 workers. The company can now turn out a year's supply of blocks for Ford in six months, which is what they've done and laid off the workers for the next six months.

TWO construction workers were killed two weeks ago, crushed to death under 25 tons of soggy clay while laying tile in a sewer near Dexter, Michigan. Some months ago ten workers at Jackson, Michigan died when the top floor of a building under construction crashed down on them, under the weight of wet concrete.

When you talk to your state legislator between now and the holidays end, don't forget to tell him that the 1909 safety law in Michigan has never been modernized into an effective Building Safety Law. Until it dies, men will thus die.

MEMO: We have your coat, Mr. Somebody, call us.

West Side Community Leaders Map Fight

DETROIT. — Several hundred Negro and white to get themselves skilled jobs. He said that discrimination exists in the skilled industries particularly against Negroes. The UAW he said seeks to break that down, seeks through 280 apprenticeship agreements with employers to help youth enter skilled fields.

In one year's time the State FEP Commission reported it had 109 cases of discrimination before it, with practically all the cases being resolved and another 29 pending investigation.

The employment conference marks a new step forward by such a State FEP group, which extends its activities from trying to stop discrimination to actually mobilizing community leaders to help end discrimination by getting jobs for the most discriminated, the Negro citizens and especially the Negro youth.

The community response showed the FEP group's move was correct. Some 80 organizations from the Detroit West Side community participated, including churches, block clubs, local unions, the West Side UAW top officials, newspapers, stores and employers including General Motors West Side shop managements.

Responsible for most of the work of the conference were John G. Field, executive director, Michigan FEP Commission and William M. Seabron, deputy director FEP and well known Negro community leader.

Mrs. Geraldine Bledsoe, well known Negro woman leader commenting on the work of the panel she moderated said that the conference was a start in rolling back a curtain that prevented Negroes from getting into skilled trades, and getting skilled trade training or good jobs generally. She said if continued and carried through Negro youth would enter industrial skilled work, white collar work and other good jobs, long denied them by discrimination.

GM Out to Break Pontiac Strike While GM Execs Pick Up Big Bonus

68% of All Michigan Taxes Collected as Sales Tax

LANSING. — When the State Legislature opens here early in January one of the biggest debates will be on taxes and whether to levy new taxes. Here are some facts that voters should know. Between 1942 and 1956 state and local tax collections skyrocketed over 200 percent. The big question in 1957 is, will new taxes be imposed?

Most of the state revenue comes from what is known as the "poor peoples taxes," sales tax, payroll taxes. Some 68 percent of Michigan's tax collection is from sales tax. And with a General Motors-Ford Republican majority in the House of Representatives and State Senate here, more and more such taxes will be sought to impose on the people unless the coalition of labor and its allies increase their efforts to secure enactment of progressive taxes—taxes based on ability to pay. For Michigan that specifically means fight for passage of Governor Williams oft sought corporation profits tax.

The Michigan CIO in its legislative program says on taxes:

"Michigan's tax system should be based on ability to pay. Relief of consumers taxes is needed especially in a period of unemployment, when each dollar paid on consumer taxes means a dollar taken from purchasing power, thereby resulting in fewer jobs."

Said the CIO further, "we affirm our support for a corporation income tax to eliminate the present sales tax. This would equal a substantial raise in pay for wage earners in Michigan."

Less money for wars past and future and more for health, housing, welfare, education must be labor and the peoples answer on a national scale. Federal aid to the states will be a great issue of debate in many of the state legislatures in 1957, not excluding Michigan which is in sore need of aid for schools, housing, health and relief.

Along with application of corporation income taxes, plus increased Federal aid to the states and elimination of the sales tax, the tax burden on those least able to pay can thus be relieved.

This is why the Republican bloc in the state legislature will favor retaining the sales tax, oppose a corporation income tax, that's the tax strategy of the Michigan Manufacturers Association. Labor and the people have to have the exact opposite policy.

Auto Show Glitter Hides Tragedy of Idle Auto Workers

DETROIT — A vital statistics, 138,000 unemployed in Michigan, that won't change much before Xmas, receives little notice in these days of booming headlines about the glitter of the New York auto show, or the plans for a "Ocean-lift of 15,000 refugees" ordered by President Eisenhower.

Some 84,000 workers have exhausted their unemployment compensation of \$33 a week for a family of 4 for 26 weeks. Those of the 84,000 not back to work then are existing on an average of \$16 a week for food for a family of four, plus government surplus foods, like beans, flour, dried apples, dried milk.

Schools Get Pennies—War Gets Billions

DETROIT.—Carl Megel, president of the AFL-CIO American Federation of Teachers in a recent speech on the need to build new schools in the nation said, "we have spent billions for defense but only pennies to educate our people so they will know how to defend themselves."

Megel said that close to 500,000 classrooms are short in the United States and that schools are being held on short sessions or double shifts, by unqualified teachers and in garages, coal bins, basements and abandoned churches.

He said that school money from the Federal Government is the only way of spreading school costs among all the people. He said that children in many major, wealthy American cities are going to school in outmoded firetraps built before or during the Civil War.

He said if Federal aid for schools construction was won it would obviously release some state and local tax money for teachers salaries.

Meanwhile in Detroit six members of the Board of Education's finance committee refused to take any action to meet emergency school needs. Obviously they never heard of Federal Aid to schools, or asking the Michigan Congressional delegation to get some for this state.

They refused also to hold any public hearings in January to ask voters opinion on how to finance

PONTIAC, Mich. — General Motors to break a strike against speedup was threatening to lock-out 12,000 additional workers at the Pontiac Motor, after 4,300 UAW members at Fisher Body walked off the job with strike authorization from the International UAW.

Also its learned that that the big reason GM stalled on settling the speedup strike and then threatened to lock out 12,000 more is they already are stockpiled with 1957 Pontiacs, which are not selling as was expected.

In addition to speeding up the workers in the Fisher Body, GM has resorted to the most provocative actions, such as harassing workers by not providing suitable lunch facilities, forcing them to take their heavy tool boxes home every day with them. This never happened since the plant was organized back in mid-thirties.

Meanwhile GM top brass have received eight of the top bonuses going to big corporation officials in 1955.

GM president Harlow Curtice in 1955 got a bonus of \$575,000 plus a \$200,000 salary, making his total take home pay \$775,000 or a little better than \$2,000 every day of the year.

Other GM officials who did well in the bonus field were Frederick Donner and Louis Goad, both at \$450,000, Thomas Keating at \$409,000, Ivan Wiles, \$400,000 and Sherrod Skinner and John Gordon, \$380,000 each.

The Ford Motor Company had two executives in the top 15. Henry Ford II and Ernest Breech, got the same bonus, \$380,000 and the same total income half a million dollars.

Some Pin Money!

Brings Big Profits Milking Customers

DETROIT. — Michiganders who use milk won't be happy to note that milk now 26 cents a quart here is fattening not those who drink it, but those who control it, namely National Dairy and Borden, the Big Two of the dairy industry, who control Michigan milk sales.

Net profits after taxes for National Dairies in the first nine months of 1956 were \$30,962,067 as compared to \$29,893,460 last year in the same period.

Borden's net profits after taxes were \$16,954,718 for this period as compared with \$16,015,576 in the same period last year.

more school building and higher wages for teachers.

By 1960 there will be need for school seats of 28,500 children in just Detroit schools, said Leonard Kaslo, member of the Board of Education to the finance committee.

Dr. Samuel Brownell, brother of U. S. Attorney General Herbert Brownell, said he is "not sure if a public hearing is the right thing."

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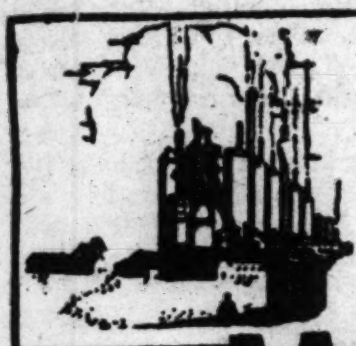
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Trail of Anti-Negro Leaflets Leads To State GOP Grand Jury Checking



Michigan
edition

The Worker

THE WORKER, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1956

Potter Joins 11 U. S. Senators To Curb Filibuster, and Rule 22

DETROIT. — Responding to mass pressure of Michigan voters led by the labor movement here, U. S. Senator Potter, Republican has joined with 11 other U. S. Senators for curbing the filibuster and abolishing Rule 22.

Potter thus joins Michigan's other U. S. Senator Pat McNamara who with five other Democratic Senators a month ago initiated the campaign to end Rule 22 at the opening of the U. S. Senate, Jan. 3.

On Jan. 2, a national lobby against Rule 22 and for the abolishment of the filibuster will assemble in Washington under the auspices of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights. This is the same 65 organizations that sparked the big battle on civil rights and support of the Supreme Court's ruling on desegregation of schools, at the Chicago Democratic Party national convention.

The UAW-FEPC Department whose co-chairmen are Walter Reuther and William Oliver have been actively supporting the six Democratic Senators plea for getting pressure on all Senators to abolish Rule 22. A sample of their effectiveness is bringing the hard-boiled Senator Potter around to support of their position. Potter two years ago refused to go for ending Rule 22.

Meanwhile the UAW here is urging continued pressure for elimination of Rule 22. Oliver told the Worker some weeks ago that now before the holidays he hoped all PAC and FEPC groups would extend all efforts to meet and talk

with legislators before they left for Washington.

Henry in High, Layoffs Follow

DEARBORN.—The Rolling Mill Column in Ford Facts, UAW No. 600 newspaper, tells a different kind of story about what's happening at Ford's than does Henry Ford II who recently spouted off at the National Auto Show in New York about how everything was going into high gear and the big employment there would be at Ford.

Well here's what the Rolling Mill workers said in Ford Facts, Dec. 15:

"The daily presses in quoting top automotive industry spokesmen have been optimistically predicting that 1957 will be the second biggest year in history for car sales. . . . In the face of such glowing reports auto workers have good reason to rejoice . . . however something has already gone wrong. Steel Division management evidently has not been reading about these glowing reports, in any event approximately 150 Rolling Mill employees have been laid off because of recent curtailments. The curtailments causing the layoffs consist of the elimination of a shift from the scarfing bed operation, elimination of the No. 1 shift on the 42-inch-32-inch mill and the shutdown of the last remaining shift on the 14-inch mill operation."

REUTHER FOR BIG WAGE BOOST IN '58

DETROIT.—Speculation is rife among the UAW's 1,600,000 members and in its 1,200 local unions in the U.S. and Canada on what UAW president Walter Reuther meant about going out for the "biggest wage increase in union history" come 1958.

Reuther has started to uncork the wrappers on the 1958 demands that will be presented to General Motors, Ford, Chrysler simultaneously in the summer of 1958 when three contracts expire and negotiations open up. He did this at the skilled trades conference held recently in Chicago.

On the "biggest raise" proposal Reuther is projecting speculation here is that it could mean the union will seek to get a 35-hour week with 40 hours pay. Pressed by mounting unemployment in the industry (100,000 members at present idle nationally) and prospects for greater consistent unemployment because of automation and employer "competition" the short work week is a hot demand. It's

so hot that in a recent UAW "Eye-Opener" gate poll, 8-1 favored going out for the shorter work week.

While a 35-hour week at 40 hours pay wouldn't mean anymore in the take-home pay of the auto workers, it would mean an average 35 1/4 cents an hour more on the hourly rate. The present hourly rate is estimated to be \$2.30 an hour, according to the union.

Back in 1946 the union won 18 1/2-cent an hour straight wage increase. In 1955 the union figured the package amounted over a three year span to about 21-22 cents an hour.

In addition in 1958 the skilled workers who make up about 10 percent of the union's membership will seek a 10 percent wage increase in the captive tool and die shops to bring as Reuther says, "the kind of wage increase their skills justify." He added when speaking to the skilled workers in Chicago that any raise gotten by the skilled would help the unskilled

By WILLIAM ALLAN

DETROIT. — "Disappearing witnesses" faced a grand jury here as it prepared to investigate mimeograph leaflets signed by a White Citizens Council, Atlanta, Ga. The typewriter which did the mimeographing, matched keys with one in the State Republican Party headquarters in the swank Penabscot Building. The leaflets were in voters mailboxes several days before last election day and were of an anti-



Negro character.

State Attorney General Thomas Kavanagh in Lansing said that one of the reasons for disappearing witnesses was that the story got out through telephone calls, alerting those involved and that the trial was leading directly to the State Republican headquarters.

Principal operator in the anti-Negro leaflets was reportedly one "Mr. Madison" who flew the leaflet and envelopes to Atlanta where they were mailed from. Madison gave the telephone number of the State Republican Party headquarters to the airlines when he boarded the plane. He has to pay access baggage rates on the leaflets.

In a number of previous elections forged leaflets allegedly put out by the Communist Party were

used by reactionary forces. Richard Frankenstein, former UAW leader, was the target of one such leaflet back in 1945 when he ran against the late Mayor Jeffries. Frankenstein was supposed to have been backed by the Communist Party. The Party characterized the leaflet as a crude forgery and a provocation.

COMMENTS here about the "disappearing witnesses" evolved around the fact that only two offices knew of the investigation, the State Attorney General's in Lansing and the U.S. District Attorney's office in Detroit. The FBI was reported working on the case for the District Attorney. The FBI seemed to have difficulty finding witnesses which difficulties they obviously didn't have when they barged into five UAW local union offices in Flint some weeks ago without warrants, demanding books, records, minutes of meetings, in order to turn that stuff over to a Federal Grand Jury in Bay City, Michigan. That was in connection with the government case of framing the UAW for political action work.

The only person so far the FBI seemed to have located was John Feikens, State Republican Party chairman who denied all.

Many Republican spokesmen claimed that none of their leaders were hiding, that "Mr. Madison" was available some days ago in his office. Seemingly now he is "not available," unless he turns up.

Anti-Negro, mimeographed leaflets was a common trick of the Black Legion in the mid-thirties in Michigan. It now has become the tool of the White Citizens Councils, who have been actively engaged in Michigan seeking members. The press here are pool-pooling any idea that the WCC has members here. It's widely known that in some plants they are soliciting members at \$3 a member and that they have organizers working here. A grand jury investigation might start a real expose. This was how the murderous Black Legion was uncovered back in the mid-thirties.

At that time a grand jury began calling in witnesses and before they were through half the Detroit police force was found to be members of the Black Legion plus prominent politicians, and many Republicans were members. Innumerable crimes against the people's rights were uncovered and some Black Legionnaires went to jail.

A fear that a repeat operation might result may have been the cause of witness "disappearing" in the present probe of who sent out the anti-Negro leaflets.

Certainly when already the State Police have found a typewriter to match the letters on the anti-Negro mimeograph leaflet and said typewriter is found in the State Republican headquarters something is "cooking." Also when the mailer of the WCC propaganda gives the GOP phone number as his and top GOPers say they know him and his whereabouts, but the FBI "can't find him" then something is sure "cooking." Last but not least who flushed the pigeons, so that they knew when to take off. Not State Attorney General Kavanagh, a Democrat who said, the trail was leading him right to the State Republican headquarters. The only other office that knew was U.S. District Attorney Fred Kaess's office. Kaess is a Republican, former Wayne County Republican chairman. And of course the FBI knew.

Greetings to the Daily Worker On Its 33d Birthday. Do It Now!

DETROIT.—When the end of January, 1957 passes into the pages of history, the Daily Worker will begin its 34th year of publication as a militant champion of the people.

With this reminder to you, our readers, we ask you to start helping us to get BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to appear in the Michigan Worker, from individuals and organizations, for Jan. 26 issue. Rates for the greetings are \$5 per column inch. Greetings should be sent to Michigan Worker, 2419 Grand River, Detroit, 1.

THE JAN. 26 issue will be a

ANNIVERSARY BIRTHDAY IS-SUE for the nation and Michigan will have special pages too.

JAN. 12, Saturday, at 7:30 p.m.

at Nowak Hall, 5703 Chene St., a BIRTHDAY BANQUET will be held.

held a roast beef dinner, tickets \$2.50, with all proceeds going to help keep Daily Worker and Michigan Worker publishing. Our guest speaker will be Herbert Aptheker, well known Marxist scholar and writer often for both papers. MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW, send notice you want a reservation, to 2419 Grand River.

A Dead Man's Boots!

DETROIT. — We wonder how the liberal, and peace-loving citizens of Hamilton, Ontario will feel about a new member of their community, particularly when they see him walking down the main street, wearing black leather boots up to his knees. These are a dead man's boots and the wearer of them now is Laszlo Peremiczky who came to Canadian shores by air-lift from Hungary.

Peremiczky told newsmen to get the boots he thrust a dagger through the neck of a fellow Hungarian who was a member of the police force in Budapest. Peremiczky was locked up before 1954

in Hungary as a spy, which meant that he was spying for those who wished an end to a Socialist form of government and return of the hated Horthy type of regime, that supported Hitler.

He was released finally in 1954 but didn't work from that time on. His claim is that his record prevented him from getting a job. A man who relishes telling Canadian newsmen how he stuck a dagger in the throat of a fellow countryman and then stole his boots and wears them obviously didn't want honest work. That Canada we think will find out soon.

workers.

Another part of the possible 1958 "package" unwrapped by Reuther in Chicago was possibility of a master agreement covering most auto workers. Those could mean the Big Three—GM, Ford, Chrysler for a start, since the union will be in negotiations with all three at around the same time, the summer of 1958.

So far he made no mention of the pensioners demand that cost of living raises flowing from the present escalator wage agreement, be added to the pension payments the retired workers are getting. The older workers claim they cannot live on the present pension and that high cost of living is bankrupting most of them.

The time now and up to the 1957 convention in April at Atlantic City, will see and hearing plenty of package unwrapping on the 1958 demands. The UAW convention will vote on the demands and also on a 50 cents a month increase in dues, bringing

dues up to \$3 a month.

Then in January, 1958 a "Economic Conference" will be held of delegates from 1200 locals where the 1958 demands will be consolidated and accompanied by a strike assessment which UAW Secretary Treasurer Emil Mazey, hopes will put close to 100 million dollars in a strike kitty. Such a strike kitty will the UAW brass hope, scare the pants of the auto corporations and get them in line quickly.

So now it's wide open discussion on the 1958 demands and certainly every UAW local union, union paper, membership, department, stewards meeting should join in the great debate, "What's the Demand for 1958?"

That used to be the pattern in the old days in the UAW, the International officers were flooded with proposals, resolutions, on contract demands. There is no reason why as the union comes into the 1958 negotiations the same thing could not happen.



NEW JERSEY
EDITION

The Worker

Reentered as second class matter Oct. 22, 1947, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879

Vol. XXI, No. 23
(16 Pages)

December 23, 1956
Price 10 Cents

A Merry Christmas

TO OUR READERS and partners in our publishing enterprise, the heartiest of holiday greetings!

Our joint efforts have pulled us through another rough year, the 33rd since the Daily Worker was founded (as of the coming January 13th), and the 20th since we launched the weekly Worker.

The path of workingclass papers devoted to socialism has never been smooth in our country. Our Marxist movement has the proud distinction of having maintained a daily English-language newspaper far longer than any previous one in U. S. history. The Worker is rapidly approaching that distinction for socialist-oriented weeklies.

★
WHY is it so tough to maintain such a paper? Why can it exist only through the self-sacrificing efforts and contributions of its body of readers (or, in the case of the trade union press, through an organization's treasury)?

The folding of Collier's and Woman's Home Companion announced last weekend, provides a clue. Here are two publications with millions of readers. They could not make a go of it because advertising fell off. The average newspaper in this

(Continued on Page 13)

CP Endorses Our Sub Drive

—See page 5

Folsom Aide Tells 'Worker' Of St-90 Talks

Other developments in the fallout arena are:

- N. Y. State Medical Society and N. Y. State Public Health Department schedule conference on milk contamination for Feb. 20.
 - Wisconsin CIO will press for state law requiring tests of air and soil for strontium-90.
 - United Nations Radiation Committee asks 87 nations to submit information.
- For details see page 4.

By VIRGINIA GARDNER

THE Department of Health, Education and Welfare is holding conferences on the subject of radiostrontium and other radioactivity now present in the environment, a spokesman for the department told The Worker last week. The hazard to living, particularly infants and growing children, of internal radiation and its genetic effects, in the public debate over continued testing of high-yield bombs.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare was queried by The Worker on what it was doing in regard to strontium-90, potential cancer agent, whose presence in the nation's milk supply was revealed by Adlai Stevenson in the presidential campaign.

An aide to Marion Folsom, Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, was asked if Folsom could be reached by the reporter to find out about any activities investigating strontium-90.

"And what in the world would that be?" the aide asked.

She was told that it was the most poisonous of the fission products contained in fallout from nuclear bomb tests, that the Atomic Energy Commission had revealed now it had been testing metropolitan New York milkshed milk and

soil since early 1954 and other milk since 1955. She was asked also to tell Folsom that in Rochester, his home town, a proposal to institute tests of the milk there for strontium-90 is under consideration by the city board of health.

She said she thought it would "be a subject Mr. Folsom would not want to make a public statement on," but that she would see "who is 'up' on this problem" and have him call the reporter.

★
THE SPOKESMAN, calling later, pointed out that "this is a very broad subject and the Department's interest in it is very broad and it is engaged in many cooperative efforts" with other large organizations. These, he said, included the AEC, Department of Defense, the health departments of about 40 states, and professional societies, including medical, nuclear physicists and

(Continued on Page 13)

Reporter Looks for and Finds Xmas Spirit

By LESTER RODNEY

THE IDEA WAS to put on the reportorial walking shoes and get some week-before-Christmas sentiments and outlook. As we started west along 14th Street, here seemed little Christmas bubble in the air. There were no sidewalk Santa Clauses or tinkling bells no window displays, not much in the way of crowds carrying bundles. Ohrbachs has moved, there are bleak empty For Rent signs where Hearns once teemed this time of year and downtown a bit Wanamakers is no more. It is a bypassed shopping area. In a Woolworth store a sales person said "slower than last year."

Uptown in the 20's, a retail and wholesale outlet house reported that "everyone is crying around here." It seems the pinch of the steady move to the suburbs of both affluent customers and shopping areas is suddenly adding up. "We're busy, mind you," was the admonition. "It's not dead, but it's not the big thing it was." For small businesses, this has to be the period to make up for all the year's slack, and to do that it has to be not busy, but frantic, unbelievable.

Another small businessman got

into the conversation, agreed it was slow, but said he expected to be busy early January. "Money is tighter than it was," he said, "But after some of the Christmas bonuses I look for a

rush."

IN A WESTERN UNION office, I was informed that there was a sharp uptake in telegrams to out of town places in this last week. "You'd never realize how

many New Yorkers didn't come from New York but have family all over the country," I was told. I asked about the Christmas greeting forms, with suggested verses. Do most make up their

own, or use the forms?

"The forms," was the answer, "with some exceptions. You'd be surprised, just a while ago someone came in, he must have I don't know how much money, he just said send one of the nice poems."

I looked at the poems. They are no threat to Walt Whitman. Here is one: "When you gather round the Christmas tree, read this message and think of me. Love." The word "love" can be added to any form for only a few cents, you are advised.

Moving up Chelsea's West Side, I chatted with a few housewives coming out of stores with bundles. In the pleasant glow that seems to go with buying presents, they didn't seem to believe that a reporter just casually passing by was seriously interested in how things were going for them, this Christmas, better or worse, and the best I can report for my efforts were the pleasantly bantering "Sure, we could always use some money for Christmas, you giving out an?" and "Give us a good write-up, I spent over \$12 today."

Passing the main postoffice, I noticed a group of several hun-

(Continued on Page 13)



Ebenezer Scrooge, Publisher

By JOSEPH NORTH

WHEN the Woman's Home Companion and Collier's went down last week the fall should have roared through the land like giant



pinetrees that top in a forest. These magazines had enormous circulations—over four million each. They had a history, the Companion was established in 1873, and Collier's, which was established in 1888, once enjoyed the regular writings and editings in its pages of such literary stalwarts as Finley Peter Dunne (Mr. Dooley), Ring Lardner, H. G. Wells, Rudyard Kipling, Mark Sullivan and Norman Hapgood.

Both had authority, history and readers—everything but enough of the dollars that advertising brings. We are told both lost \$7,500,000 this past year. Paul C. Smith, president and chairman of Crowell-Collier, parent firm of the two, said cryptically the losses were due to rising costs and falling revenue.

Mr. Smith said the disappearance of these two publications will "affect" over 2,400 employees. But he did not have the courage to spell that out. Theodore H. White, senior writer for Collier's, and spokesman for the committee, did: these men and women who worked without ben-

efit of a trade union will lose their jobs without a cent of severance pay, old age pensions, anything that would keep them a step ahead of the poorhouse. Some worked here 30 years; an elderly switchboard operator, half a century.

It is brutal, too, that the Board of Directors refused to lift a finger to help the employees buy the magazines. "We were told," White reports, "that we have to raise \$2 million within a day if we wanted to save the magazines." He intimated that if he were given time, the minimal offering the publishers granted under the cruel circumstances, the employees could have raised the appropriate sum. Even that dispensation was denied them.

SO, ON THE EVE of Merry Christmas when the publishers devote considerable space and time to declare their adherence to the Christly creed (when the carols are sounding on the radio) these veteran employees face bleak times.

I wonder how J. Patrick Lannan, the Chicago financier who moved in last week as a director and chairman of the publishing firm, will enjoy the egg-nog of Yule as he contemplates, (which he may, who knows?) his Scrooge-like decision to turn these old and faithful workers out into the cold. (It was his decision to chop the giant pinetrees down.) Even medieval old King Wenceslas called for his page to locate the poor and feed them Christmas grael. Lannan went no further than to



promise a "job-placement bureau" on the premises.

And Smith, once known as the boy-wonder when he edited the San Francisco News Chronicle in his late twenties, and who has grown up to be the president of the Crowell-Collier firm, said piously, "The stockholders of our company number more than 7,000, and it is the primary duty of their board and chief executive officer to protect their investment."

SO WE SEE, even at Christ-

with Ulyanova, out with Oistrakh, death to Chekhov, Pushkin and Gorky. Generally speaking, this represented the current thinking of Collier's, whose editorials were written by Reuben Maury, the genius who writes the editorials on the Daily News. It was a long bleak stretch backward from Maury to Peter Finley Dunne and his sagacious, and humane bartender Mr. Dooley.

WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION, on the other hand, was different. I had taken to reading it the past few years, as I understand, many another husband did. Its frank and honest discourses on many social and personal questions of the day impressed me. The magazine was established 83 years back as the Home Companion; and some of our senior readers may remember Gertrude B. Lane, its most famous editor who held the post from 1912 until she died in 1941. Under her guidance the publication grew from 788,000 to more than 3,600,000.

One can well reflect upon the sorry state of journalistic affairs; once upon a time our nation had over 3,000 daily newspapers. Today the number has shrunk to 1,800. This past year three vast periodicals, the American Magazine, Collier's and Woman's Home Companion are gone from the news-stands. And so even the stage for a diversity of viewpoint has shrunk. As we have abundantly heard in the midst of recent political campaigns, American has virtually become a country of a one-party press.

I do not, in conclusion, wish to grind a personal axe, but the fate of these giants of circulation should help our readers understand the burdens a paper like ours shoulders. If periodicals with four million readers cannot make a go of it in this dog-eat-dog economic setup, it is little less than a miracle that our paper can continue to appear.

Could it be that our simple devotion to the principle of peace on earth, good will to men is mightier than the millions of dollars that crossed the palms of Crowell-Collier's?

AFL-CIO Sees Jan. 3 Crucial on Rights

By ABNER W. BERRY

DESPITE the Democratic platform pledge on civil rights legislation and the almost unanimous agreement that such legislation is impossible unless Senate filibusters can be curbed, the effort against the filibuster is still supported by only 12 U. S. Senators. The

AFL-CIO News, noting that there are only four Republicans—Thomas Kuchel (Calif.), Clifford Case (N.J.), Irving Ives (N.Y.) and Edward J. Thye (Minn)—declaring for the rule change, declared editorially:

"This year 46 or 47 Republicans will attend the Jan. 3 (1957) session. If the Administration wants civil rights legislation, then these Republicans can quickly demonstrate it by voting for the anti-filibuster revision of Rule 22."

The labor paper stresses the importance of taking the issue up on Jan. 3, when a majority can cut off debate, rather than dallying until later when the old rule will permit a filibuster against which no closure steps can be taken.

Southern Democrats, the AFL-CIO News predicts, will continue to fight for the right to filibuster while northern and western Democrats will vote to change the rule, adding:

"The absolute balance of power will be held by the Republicans."

A CHORUS OF DEMANDS from a variety of organizations joined that of the AFL-CIO News:

• The NAACP national office sent a letter to its branches in 25 states urging visits to U.S. Senators on the issue.

• Negro Ministers formed a National Ministers' Civil Rights Conference to meet in Washington on ship in the Senate rests somewhere Jan. 3 to press for action against filibusters, protest the withdrawal

of seniority and patronage privileges from Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-N.Y.), and to request desegregation enforcement by President Eisenhower and Attorney General Herbert Brownell.

• The American Civil Liberties Union made the fight against the filibuster a part of its program to give support to southerners in their legal fight against segregation.

• In New York, the Liberal Party announced a campaign to collect 300,000 signatures on a petition calling for senatorial action against filibusters.

• The American Jewish Committee asked Congress to abolish filibusters, warning that passage of civil rights legislation would continue to be "extremely remote" unless the senate rules are changed.

BUT, WHILE THE DEMANDS for change mounted, Senate liberals became more timorous, as if caught between the cross-fire of the people's wants and the power still wielded by the Congressional Dixiecrats. On the Republican side there is the comfortable coalition in the Senate with the Dixiecrats that an all-out civil rights fight would impair.

The veteran legislative representative of the NAACP, Clarence Mitchell, writing in the current Baltimore Afro-American points out:

"The real Democratic leadership on the Senate rests somewhere that they were electing such a liberal majority. For isn't that what the platforms led them to believe?"

gia, and Harry F. Byrd of Virginia."

It was Russell who led the Dixiecrat bloc into the GOP-Dixiecrat alliance in 1949.

Northern Democrats are under pressure from the nominal majority leader Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas, Mitchell to "see things through Russell - colored glasses" if they are to get committee appointments and consideration of their pet bills.

"It is difficult to know what is gained by having Sen. Johnson act as a kind of front man for the arch-foes of civil rights," Mitchell writes. "Democrats who must depend on their civil rights record to get re-elected should demand an opportunity to select another majority leader. Unless they do, they must accept responsibility for the present condition which permits Russell et al. to run things by remote control."

Mitchell's explanation for the slowness of liberal senators was reflected by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in a somewhat pessimistic tone. The League commented last Saturday:

"Until a bi-partisan liberal bloc committed to civil rights wins a comfortable majority in the Senate and House, the chances of a major breakthrough on civil rights will be slim indeed."

Meantime the voters are proceeding on the basis of the fact that they were electing such a liberal majority. For isn't that what the platforms led them to believe?

mas time, the dominant ethic that reigns over the capitalist order of society: Protect your investment, and let men starve as they may.

There is perhaps another fact to this journalistic phenomenon. How is it that two periodicals of circulations surpassing four and a quarter million each, couldn't make ends meet? The number of readers would indicate some considerable degree of loyalty and affection for the periodicals.

Personally, I have little brief for Collier's editorial policy which, I feel, has slid downhill for some years, hitting a low and dismal point when it devoted an issue virtually to exhorting a war between the USA and USSR, and gloated that "Guys and Dolls" would be playing the boards in the Moscow Bolshoi theatre after we got through with benighted Russkies. Down

N.Y. Auto Show Didn't Tell the Detroit Story

DETROIT.—Though the Automobile Manufacturers Association is reported to have spent \$11½ million to launch the 1957 cars at the National Auto Show in New York last week, it did not tell the entire truth about the automotive industry.

This was left unsaid: 1. Unemployment in Michigan, primarily among auto workers, has grown from 83,000 last year to 140,000 this year.

2. Although Harlow Curtice, of General Motors, Henry Ford II, and other tycoons predict a 6½ million new car season, a survey by a national magazine, "Colliers," predicts it will be a 5½ million season. That would mean at least a 3½ month layoff for 5-10 year seniority people.

The big auto show at the New York Coliseum did not—amidst the soft lights, heavenly music and Madison Avenue halleluia—quote a single word of Walter Reuther, UAW head. He said that the price boosts this year—as high as \$600 a car—will mean 100,000 jobs less. A million Americans less will buy, Reuther said, because they are unable to meet the price or the payments.

Further, omitted from the Coliseum jubilee was the fact that GM's Fisher, Chrysler, Highland Park, Dodge Main, and at least a dozen other plants are taking strike votes.

The hard fact is that a wild production battle rage among the three remaining giants of the industry: GM, Ford, Chrysler. Each is trying to crack all "past produc-

tion records even if it breaks the backs of the workers in the process.

HIGH ON THE FINTAILS of the 1957 model rides not only speedup, but automation. Both are now the bane of the auto workers' lives.

Automation has taken a heavy toll of jobs as have runaway shops and plants built at government expense or with fast tax writeoff agreements made with the Cadillac Cabinet members. All this is done in the name of "meet competition" and reduce costs.

The Big Three are bypassing the bare elementary health and safety standards to get production. More workers are being injured, ruptured, lacerated, burned, the Workmen's Compensation Commission says. The death rate has crept up too. This is why strike votes are soft lights, heavenly music and piling up. In a UAW poll 85 percent favored the 30 hour week with 40 hours pay. These workers see what's happening behind the chrome and the fintails. After all, Ford made \$145,200,000 profits after taxes the first nine months of 1956, and GM \$639,585,399, while the layoffs among workers got longer, speedup increased: profits continue to mount to an all-time high.

Hence the 30 hour week for 40 hour pay is the overwhelming choice, simultaneously the workers indicate they want wage increases, more pension money, better health and medical care. You didn't hear any of this at the Coliseum last week.

Conference Will Fight Denial of Seniority Rights to Rep. Powell

PHILADELPHIA. — A two-day "Ministers National Civil Rights Conference" to avert a filibuster against civil rights legislation and to support Congressman Adam Clayton Powell—who is also a clergyman—in retaining his seniority rights in Congress, will be convened in Washington, D. C., by the Baptist Ministers Conference of Greater New York, together with the Empire Baptist Convention, on Jan. 2 and 3 of the New Year.

On Jan. 3, the ministers will lead a delegation of church members and the general public, riding a special train originating in Boston, Mass. The train will pick up delegations at New Haven, Conn.; Newark, N. J.; Wilmington, Del.; Philadelphia and Baltimore and will be joined in Washington by other delegations from throughout the nation.

Arriving in Washington on the day that Congress opens, this group will concentrate on visiting their Congressmen and Senators on Capitol Hill. That night, a mammoth Civil Rights Rally will be held.

The first group of ministers will arrive in Washington on Jan. 2, the day when Democratic leaders of Congress will be meeting to make committee assignments. They will split into three groups and call upon Paul Butler, chairman of the Democratic National Committee; House Speaker, Sam Rayburn; Rep. Jere Cooper, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee; and Rep. John McCormack, House Majority leader.

In Philadelphia a young Negro attorney—Cecil Moore—announced a "March on Washington" by a number of "irate" Republicans and a few Democrats at the same time to get Powell "off the hook."

In a statement to the press Moore is quoted as saying: "We are not going to be satisfied with merely getting the hook out of Powell's back, but we're probing into the background of Congressman Shepard of San Bernardino, Calif., one of Powell's antagonists."

"He was born in Mobile, Ala., you know," Moore added. Congressman Shepard joined with Congressmen Walter of Pennsylvania and Celler of New York in seeking to deprive Powell of patronage rights and were instrumental in having two of Powell's Washington aides fired.

"We're going after the Senate Cloture Rule 22, too," Moore declared. "All such matters must be reckoned with. The filibuster as used by those Southern legislators is stamping out democracy."

The conference is assuming a mass character.

Phila. Group Urges Repeal of Senate Rule 22

PHILADELPHIA. — The Jewish Community Relations Council, which represents the various Jewish groups in this area, has, through the chairman of its Committee on Civil Liberties—Murray H. Shusterman—thrown its support to the proposal of a number of U. S. Senators to amend Senate Rule 22 so that a majority vote of the Senate could close debate.

The Rule requires two-thirds (64) of the entire membership to stop a filibuster under which, as the Washington staff of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette has pointed out: "Practically, it is almost impossible to get 64 votes on any controversial issue. Civil rights legislation has foundered on this cloture rule in the past Congresses."

Although the Democratic Party national election program called for a change in this Rule, that party's official leadership in the Senate is bitterly opposed.

LETTERS to the editor favoring this change in the Rule have appeared in both the Philadelphia Daily News and The Bulletin.

"The amendment to the Rule," a letter to the Bulletin points out, "would end the filibuster by which Dixiecrat Senators have been able to block all legislation that would enforce the right of all Americans to an equal voice in the selection of their President and other representatives."

"Aside from the long-continued wrong done millions of our fellow-Negro citizens in the South (and many whites there also) by refusing them the status of first-class citizens, this anomalous situation makes us hypocrites to the majority

of the people of the world, who are of a darker skin coloration than we."

Resume Merger Negotiations of AFL-CIO in Pa.

HARRISBURG. — Warned by George Meany, national head of the AFL-CIO, that the merger of all AFL and CIO councils on state and local levels must be completed by the end of next November, the special merger committee of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor and the State CIO Industrial Union Council at a meeting here have resumed their discussions.

AFL president Joseph McDonough and CIO president Harry Boyer expressed confidence the deadline would be met. It was pointed out that the 1,500,000 in the combined AFL and CIO in Pennsylvania represents about one-tenth of the total membership of those two groups in the U. S.

The State AFL Council approved the establishment of a new department which will help establish central labor bodies in localities where none exist now and will aid in the expansion of their activities.

McDONOUGH and Earl C. Bohr, AFL secretary-treasurer, assured the representatives of the central bodies gathered together from all over the state that the new department will not "in any way . . . diminish the prerogative and identity of the individual central bodies."

These councils, they pointed out, are important as spokesmen for the labor movement in "creating favorable attitudes in the community toward unions in general . . . and in effectively dealing with economic, political and social problems on the local level."

Delegates representing union councils in 28 cities participated in the discussion. State secretary-treasurer Earl C. Bohr reported a total of 41 CIO Labor Unions and 1,475 AFL locals in the state.

Forever In Our Hearts

S. T.

December 23rd

selective TV, movie guide

TV

SAT. DEC. 22

Mr. Wizard (4) 12:30 Noon
Right Now!—discussion (2) 1:30
Junior Town Meeting (13) 1:30
Football: Aluminum Bowl Game (2) 2
Middle America: Film of Cultural and Historical Heritage (4) 2
Pro Basketball: St. Louis-Boston (4) 2:30
Million Dollar Movie: Christmas Carol (9) 3, 7:30 and 10. Recommended
American Battle Ground (4) 4:30
Film of American Revolution in New York State
Open Mind—discussion (4) 5
World-National Report (2) 6
Christmas Program (13) 6:30
Movie: Desperate Moment (1953) (7) 7:30. Chase melodrama with Dirk Bogarde and Mai Zetterling
Jackie Gleason Show (2) 8. The Poor Soul-featured
Perry Como (4) 8. Bishop Fulton J. Sheen—guest
Confidential File (11) 8. Exceptional Children
Duffy's Tavern (11) 8:30
Basketball: St. John's-Utah (11) 9
Your Hit Parade (4) 10:30
Night Show: They Live By Night (7) 11. Better than average

TV

SUN. DEC. 23

Look Up and Live (2) 10:30 a.m.
Alan Hovhaness' Triptych—music UN in Action (2) 11
Camera Three: Part 3 on Victorian Era
Learn to Draw (5) 11:45
Let's Take A Trip (2) Noon. 15th children's holiday carnival at Museum of Modern Art

All American Game of Week: Syracuse-Maryland (11) 12:30
Times Youth Forum (5) 1. UN Children and children's choirs
Olympic Spectacular (11) 1
Face the Nation—panel discussion (2) 1:30
Profession Football: Washington Redskins-Baltimore Colts (2) 2
Youth Wants to Know (4) 2:30
Outlook—news (4) 3
Zoo Parade (4) 3:30
Johns Hopkins File 7—documentary on research (7) 3:30
Wide World World (4) 4
Medical Horizons (7) 4:30
Mama-Peggy Wood (2) 5
Boing-Boing Show (2) 5:30
Meet the Press (4) 6
Frontier—Ballad of Pretty Polly (5) 6
Million Dollar Movie: Christmas Carol (9) 6, 7:30 and 10
Air Power—Roaring 20s with Art Carney, others (2) 6:30
You Asked For It (7) 7
Victory at Sea (11) 7:30
Ed Sullivan Show (2) 8
Steve Allen (4) 8
Press Conference (7) 8:30
Alcoa Hour: The Stingiest Man in Town (4) 9. Musical—Suggested by a Christmas Carol by Dickens
Omnibus (7) 9. Christmas Show \$64,000 Challenge (2) 10
What's My Line (2) 10:30
Sunday News Special (2) 11
Drew Pearson (5) 11
Movie: Holly and the Ivy (English) (2) 11:15. Ralph Richardson, Celia Johnson

RADIO

SAT. DEC. 22

Monitor, WRCA Noon to Midnight
Groucho Marx WRCA 12:30 after-noon
Metropolitan Opera: Offenbach's

Tales of Hoffman, WABC 2
Richard Tucker, others
Opera Matinee: Cilea's Adriana Lecouvreur, WNYC 4
Christmas with Armed Forces, WABC 8:05
Phila. Orchestra, WCBs 9:05. Fifth Symphony—Beethoven

RADIO

SUN. DEC. 23

NY Philharmonic—Bernstein, conducting WCBs 2:30
Radio Workshop—Story of 'Silent Night' WCBs 4:05
Suspense, WCBs 4:30. Herbert Marshall in Back for Christmas Meet the Press, WRCA 6:35
Jack Benny, WCBs 7
Jean Shepherd Show, WOR 8:05

MOVIES

Magnificent Seven, 50th St. Guild
Secrets of Life, Sutton
Ten Commandments, Criterion
Wee Geordie, Little Carnegie
Oklahoma, Mayfair
Lust for Life, Plaza
La Strada, 52nd St. Translux
Around World in 80 Days, Rivoli
Silent World, Paris
Solid Gold Cadillac, Victoria
Seven Wonders of World—Cine-rama, Warner
Secrets of the Reef, Gramercy—through Monday
The King and I, 68th St. Playhouse—Through Monday
Papa, Mama, Maid and I And The Doctors (French) 72nd St. Thru Tues.
Rules of Game (Renoir) and Chaplin Festival Fifth Ave. Cinema Through Thursday.
W. C. Fields Program—two films, Thalia—Through Monday

THEATRE

The Good Woman of Setzuan, Phoenix
Candide, Martin Beck
Long Day's Journey into Night, Helen Hayes
Bells Are Ringing, Shubert
Separate Tables, Music Box
Li'l Abner, St. James
Old Vic, Winter Garden
Major Barbara, Morosco
Sleeping Prince, Coronet
Hamlet, Shakespearwrights, 264 W. 87th St.
My Fair Lady, Helinger
Three Penny Opera, Theatre de Lys
Diary of Anne Frank, Cort
Inherit the Wind, National
No Time For Sergeants, Alvin
Me Candido, Greenwich Mews
Judy Garland Show, Palace

He Says: Blame Jersey For the Air Pollution

By HARRY RAYMOND

If smoke gets in your eyes anywhere within the 320 square miles of New York City, blame it on New Jersey. That's what Dr. Leonard Greenburg, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Air Pollution Control suggested last week.

The good doctor testified at a hearing of the Interstate Sanitation Commission, which is investigating the air pollution problem affecting New York and New Jersey.

Dr. Greenburg no doubt had a good point when he picked up the line from the old song: "Don't Blame It All on Broadway."

He discussed the problems of "prevailing winds" like and old sea captain.

If citizens in New York are choking daily on tons of soot—which the pollution doctors have properly called "condensed smoke"—Dr. Greenburg has the answer. He told the commission:

"The prevailing winds in this area are such that air pollution emanating from New Jersey is very frequently carried into New York City. For many years residents of New York City, particularly those of Staten Island and in the southerly and westerly portions of the Borough of Manhattan, have been disturbed and annoyed by the odors, dust and pollutants which have been brought to New York City from New Jersey."

Dr. Greenburg disclosed an old New York secret document: It was a letter written as far back as 1915, which he said "indicates the existence of complaints on this score." Why was it kept a secret that long?

Dr. Greenburg stood firm against the right of one state to send its smoke over another. But as a patriotic citizen of New York, he was mum about the soft coal smoke pouring out of the factories, apartments and other enterprises in

the city's five boroughs.

He didn't make clear whether he was a states rights man or not. There was nothing in his testimony advocating civil war against Jersey.

But he stuck firm to the anti-Jersey point of view. He said his smoke detectives, who have been sniffing the New York City air from some time, have discovered that the main source of pollution "originates from the industrial plants and open burning dumps along the Hudson River, the Lower Bay area and along the West Shore of Arthur Kill."

This smoke and smog, he said, is doing great damage to plant life and property on Staten Island.

What does the good doctor propose? He suggests that we "hope."

"Hope"—that is the slogan of the new anti-smoke campaign. Let us hope, said Dr. Greenburg, that the Interstate Sanitation Commission will be able to "evaluate the relative importance of the contributing sources on both sides of the border and will recommend steps to be taken to control the problem."

Come on, New Jersey, quit sending over all that smoke!

Classified Ads

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what's on

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Sunday Bronx

GENERAL YAKHANTOV will speak on the "World Situation" this Sun. eve., 8 p.m. at Bronx Cultural Center, 1753 Boston Road, Bronx. Adm. 50 cents.

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NEW JERSEY
EDITION

The Worker

THE WORKER, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1956

Around the State

POLIO LOW IN 1956

TRENTON.—The polio rate in 1956 reached its lowest point in 13 years. There were 206 cases of the disease through Dec. 15, compared to 662 for all of 1955 and a 13-year average of 731 cases. The 206 figure is the lowest since 1943 when there were 85 cases.

Dr. Carl Weigle, state director of preventable diseases, said the low figure was due to the Salk vaccine. He said no one who had three properly spaced inoculations got the disease in New Jersey.

There were ten deaths this year as compared to 37 last year. Bergen County reported 38 cases—the highest in the state. Four counties—Salem, Warren, Hunterdon and Cumberland—had no cases.

Meanwhile, the State Health Department announced it had more than \$700,000 available to purchase Salk vaccine. \$560,000 of this is state funds and \$168,000 federal. Dr. Weigle said that 437 municipalities gave first shot in free clinics, and 396 had given second inoculations.

PATERSON ELECTION

PATERSON.—Incumbent Democrat Edward O'Byrne is expected to run for reelection in Paterson's mayoralty race next year. Two possible GOP candidates have been mentioned to oppose O'Byrne. They are former Mayor Lester Titus and Assemblyman Thomas Lazzio. Lazzio is a business agent for Local 300, UAW.

NEW NAACP BRANCH

PASSAIC.—A new branch of the NAACP in Passaic received its charter last week from the state organization. The charter was presented by Samuel Williams, president of the State Conference of NAACP branches at a public meeting. A Youth Council of the branch has also been set up.

TRAGIC ANNIVERSARY

ELIZABETH.—Last Sunday marked the fifth anniversary of the first of three plane crashes that resulted in the death of 119 persons. The first crash occurred on Dec. 16, 1951, killing 56 passengers and in less than two months

two other fatal crashes occurred. Residents of Newark and Elizabeth with the memory of the fatal crashes in the background, are still complaining of low-flying planes taking off and landing at Newark airport.

ALIEN REPORT DUE

About 150,000 aliens in New Jersey must report their addresses to Federal authorities in January, 1957. All non-citizens except those having diplomatic status or foreign representatives at the UN must file a report. Violations can be punished by \$200 fines, 30-day imprisonment and deportation.

STAR-LEDGER SUED

NEWARK.—The Newark Star-Ledger was being sued again last week. Aaron Coleman, a former radar scientist at Fort Monmouth, filed a \$600,000 libel suit against the paper charging defamation. A few weeks ago labor leader Lewis Harman was awarded \$3,000 damages by a jury on the basis of articles appearing in the Ledger.

RR END BIAS

TRENTON.—Eighteen railroads operating in New York and New Jersey have announced they will cooperate with laws of the two states banning discriminatory hiring practices. Earlier 18 airlines serving the two states said they would base themselves on a policy of non-discrimination in hiring. Charles Abrams, head of the New York Commission Against Discrimination, and John Milligan, New Jersey director of the Division Against Discrimination, conducted negotiations with representatives of the railroads over a year's time.

MERRY XMAS TO ALL

In addition to making this a Merry Christmas let's make it a safe one too. Last year in December 20 persons died from fires in the home, 16 in 1954. Christmas trees are a lot of fun—especially for the kids. But make sure they are not a fire hazard. The tree should sit in water. Don't use flammable decorations. Check wiring of your electric tree lights. Don't go out and leave the lights burning.

Jersey CIO Sets Program On Legislation

NEWARK.—More than 200 delegates from CIO locals throughout the state met last week in the Newark YMCA, and adopted a 67-point legislative program for 1957.

CIO State President Paul Krebs, in his keynote address, called on Democratic Governor Meyner "to give vigorous leadership" to the Republican controlled Legislature in order to achieve in 1957 a liberal program of legislation benefiting the working people, consumers generally and minority groups.

Krebs said: "While Governor Meyner's cabinet has brought about many administrative improvements, particularly in the Labor Department, he has failed to press the State Legislature vigorously for essential reforms in many of our antiquated laws."

The CIO official charged the Governor "has spent too much time and energy advocating an unneeded gasoline sales tax increase, and not enough to advance the legislative program affecting labor, civil rights, housing, and consumer protection on which he was elected."

In his address Krebs called on the Governor and the Legislature to give immediate attention to the following important problems:

"1. Completion of the task begun by the COP Legislature this year of modernizing our state workmen's compensation law, particularly to supplement the inadequate benefits frozen in past years at less than \$30 of 520 permanently and totally disabled workers and 1,350 widows and dependents of workers killed on the job.

"2. A complete revision and liberalization of New Jersey's unemployment insurance and temporary disability benefits laws by a bipartisan legislative study commission to eliminate a score inequities.

"3. Increased powers and budget for New Jersey's 'anesthetized' State Division Against Discrimination.

"4. Launching of a large scale middle income housing program.

"5. Classification of real estate property so that small homes are assessed at 50 percent of true value, while income producing properties receive relatively higher assessments up to 100 percent of sales value."

Church Leader Opposes Ban

Dr. John Mackay, president Princeton Theological Seminary, in an address to the home missions of the National Council of Churches in Indianapolis said that Americans should re-establish contacts with fellow Christians in Communist lands.

He said the State Department ban on travel to China cannot be regarded as "ultimate and permanently authoritative." Dr. Mackay proposed that the National Council initiate steps that would eventually lead to a delegation of churchmen visiting Peoples China.

suburb, tenants appealed to their Congressman, Peter Rodino, D, 10 C.D., to help them in a fight to reinstate rent controls. Caldwell Mayor Donald Lockwood said city officials were powerless to act under the State Rent Control Act of 1956.

Tenants were said to be considering organization and taking action similar to that taken by tenants in Irvington. The Irvington Tenants Association gathered thousands of signatures to a proposed ordinance reinstating controls, but the city commission refused to adopt it or put it to a referendum. The tenants group is taking it to court, seeking a writ forcing a referendum on the issue.

SILENT SENATOR

An Editorial

Away back in 1927 the 29th President of the United States was known as "Silent Cal." In the long history of the United States Senate no Senator has ever been called "Silent Senator." . . . In fact many of them have been famous for their loquaciousness—on many subjects. But when it comes to taking a position on the fight against filibustering, the senior U. S. Senator from New Jersey evidently is determined to become known as "Silent Senator Smith."

This is in direct contrast to his Jersey colleague, the junior Senator from Jersey, Senator Clifford Case. Case has taken a forthright position in favor of changing Senate Rule 22—the method that permits unlimited filibustering against civil rights legislation. Case has allied himself with a group of Democratic and Republican Senators who will try to change this undemocratic Rule 22. But Senator Smith remains silent. He does not state where he stands on the issue.

Another Republican colleague of Senator Smith, California Senator Thomas Kuchel, said he

will vote in January "to junk the archaic tradition which enables a few to tie the Senate in knots and kill meritorious legislation with oratorical stabs in the back." We would like to ask the "Silent Senator" do you agree with Senator Kuchel? If you do why don't you speak up and say so? There's an old saying that silence lends consent.

Perhaps the Silent Senator hasn't made up his mind yet. That's possible. We believe the people of New Jersey ought to help Senator Smith come to a conclusion—to the proper conclusion—to change Rule 22 to make it impossible for the Dixiecrats to filibuster civil rights legislation to death.

Senator Smith can be reached by postcard, telegram, letter by writing to the Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C. Contact him today. Tell him what you think he, as a Senator, should do. Tell him you want civil rights legislation from the next session of Congress. Tell him you want Rule 22 changed so that it will no longer be possible to "kill meritorious legislation with oratorical stabs in the back."

Shop Talk

IUE WINS VOTE

The IUE AFL-CIO defeated the independent UE in an NLRB election held last week at the Jersey City Westinghouse plant. About 900 production workers were involved. The vote was IUE 555 to the UE's 300 with 14 votes for no union and four ballots void.

On January 3rd an NLRB election will be held at Phillipsburg Ingersoll-Rand plant. About 2,900 workers will choose their bargaining agent from four unions on the ballot. They include the UE which now represents the workers, the IUE, the Steel Workers and the IAM.

ESSEX FREEHOLDERS CALLED 'ANTI-LABOR'

Essex County Freeholder John Giblin, Democrat, last week accused the Freeholders Board of being "anti-labor." Giblin, who is a business agent for Local 68, Operating Engineers, said "no one on this board understands the problems of the workingman," and he singled out Republican Freeholder Elwood Russell for his "outstanding record against trade unions as a member of the State Legislature." Giblin charged there was an "unfair, deadly" opposition in the Board to anyone carrying a union card in his pocket.

Giblin's remarks came as a result of discussion on a measure to give raises to supervisory help. He argued that the rank and file should also be considered. Russell defended his record as an assemblyman.

AID MED. COLLEGE

The New Jersey Building & Construction Trades Council will launch a statewide campaign to raise funds for the Seton Hall College of Medicine and Dentistry. The campaign was authorized by the council's executive board representing 19 craft unions in the industry.

A five man committee will be set

up to run the campaign. Sol Maso, council president, congratulated Seton Hall for establishing the medical and dentistry facility, and urged all building trades members to support the drive.

LABOR BRIEFS

Workers at Okonite in Paterson voted 197 to 128 to retain the Okonite Employees Association as bargaining agent as opposed to AFL-CIO Rubber Workers Union in NLRB election . . . Jerry Hyland re-elected business agent of Newark Local 843, Teamsters . . . 65 taxi drivers ended 12 day strike against two Paterson Cab companies with three year contract providing for mediation of wage issue, and increased medical, insurance and vacation benefits . . . Local 825, Operating Engineers called strike against Bakelite Corporation halting construction project to win contract . . . 135 workers, members Local 1310 Paint, Varnish & Allied Workers Union, get 10 cent raise, additional paid holiday in new contract with Beckwith-Chandler, Newark . . . Workers at Titanite, members of same union, get 10 cent hike plus additional holiday and two hours off on election day and sick leave . . . Longshoremen overcome by sulphur fumes when fire broke out on freighter docked at Port Newark . . . Union County and Central Jersey Chapters of the New Jersey CIO Womens League will elect officers at January meetings.

Labor Head Won't Run Again

NEWARK.—Morris Fuchs, president of the Essex County Trades Council of the AFL, has announced he will not seek reelection to that post. Fuchs' term expire at the next Council meeting in January when new elections will be held.

In a letter to Edward Slater, secretary of the council, Fuchs said: "It will be impossible for me to continue as president." He gave as his reasons for not seeking reelection added duties as business agent in his own union, Local 62, Luggage Workers, and responsibilities as president of the Newark Board of Education.

Fuchs was elected to the council presidency in 1952 and has been reelected each year since. He will continue as a council delegate.

Landlords Fight Jersey City Rent Control Extension Law

JERSEY CITY.—The proposed six month modified extension of Jersey City's rent control ordinance has run into the opposition of landlord groups. The Jersey City chapter of the New Jersey Property Owners Protective Association has protested the plan to Mayor Bernard Berry.

The landlords called the proposal "unilateral" action, and called instead for flat 15 to 20 percent increases as allowed under the emasculated state law. Reports are that the Mayor rejected the landlords' demands, and indicated his opposition to "arbitrary" increases.

The new law, which was to have had a public hearing last week, decontrols all one family homes and all apartments where vacancies occur. Rent increases, however, must be approved by City Rent Director Ralph Messano, and are contingent on signing of an 18-month lease. The landlords are insisting on mandatory increases.

In another Hudson community,

nearby Kearny, the town council moved to extend controls until Jan. 2, 1958. A public hearing will be held on Dec. 26. All houses that have more than three families are under rent control here. A local rent control commission is responsible for carrying out and administering the law.

In still another rent fight tenants at the Brookchester housing project in New Milford, Bergen County, lost an appeal in Superior Court to have rent increases voided.

The Brookchester Community Association, representing the tenants, charged that the rents fixed by the federal housing administrator were based on fraudulent misrepresentation by the defendants of building costs "in excess of the actual costs."

Judge John Francis dismissed the complaint for lack of jurisdiction, ruling the action was premature.

In Caldwell, an Essex County

PENNA. EDITION The Worker

Reentered as second class matter Oct. 22, 1947, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879.

Vol. XXI, No. 23
(16 Pages)

December 23, 1956
Price 10 Cents

A Merry Christmas

TO OUR READERS and partners in our publishing enterprise, the heartiest of holiday greetings!

Our joint efforts have pulled us through another rough year, the 33rd since the Daily Worker was founded (as of the coming January 13th), and the 20th since we launched the weekly Worker.

The path of workingclass papers devoted to socialism has never been smooth in our country. Our Marxist movement has the proud distinction of having maintained a daily English-language newspaper far longer than any previous one in U. S. history. The Worker is rapidly approaching that distinction for socialist-oriented weeklies.

★
WHY is it so tough to maintain such a paper? Why can it exist only through the self-sacrificing efforts and contributions of its body of readers (or, in the case of the trade union press, through an organization's treasury)?

The folding of Collier's and Woman's Home Companion announced last weekend, "provides a clue. Here are two publications with millions of readers. They could not make a go of it because advertising fell off. The average newspaper in this

(Continued on Page 13)

**COMMUNIST PARTY LEADERS URGE
SUPPORT TO THE WORKER SUB DRIVE**

—See page 5

Folsom Aide Tells 'Worker' Of St-90 Talks

Other developments in the fallout arena are:

- N. Y. State Medical Society and N. Y. State Public Health Department schedule conference on milk contamination for Feb. 20.
- Wisconsin CIO will press for state law requiring tests of air and soil for strontium-90.
- United Nations Radiation Committee asks 87 nations to submit information.

For details see page 4.

By VIRGINIA GARDNER

THE Department of Health, Education and Welfare is holding conferences on the subject of radiostrontium and other radioactivity now present in the environment, a spokesman for the department told The Worker last week. The hazard to living, particularly infants and growing children, of internal radiation and its genetic effects, in the public debate over continued testing of high-yield bombs.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare was queried by The Worker on what it was doing in regard to strontium-90, potential cancer agent, whose presence in the nation's milk supply was revealed by Adlai Stevenson in the presidential campaign.

An aide to Marion Folsom, Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, was asked if Folsom could be reached by the reporter to find out about any activities investigating strontium-90.

"And what in the world would that be?" the aide asked.

She was told that it was the most poisonous of the fission products contained in fallout from nuclear bomb tests, that the Atomic Energy Commission had revealed now it had been testing metropolitan New York milkshed milk and

soil since early 1954 and other milk since 1955. She was asked also to tell Folsom that in Rochester, his home town, a proposal to institute tests of the milk there for strontium-90 is under consideration by the city board of health.

She said she thought it would "be a subject Mr. Folsom would not want to make a public statement on," but that she would see "who is 'up' on this problem" and have him call the reporter.

★
THE SPOKESMAN, calling later, pointed out that "this is a very broad subject and the Department's interest in it is very broad and it is engaged in many cooperative efforts" with other large organizations. These, he said, included the AEC, Department of Defense, the health departments of about 40 states, and professional societies, including medical, nuclear physicists and

(Continued on Page 13)

Reporter Looks for and Finds Xmas Spirit

By LESTER RODNEY

THE IDEA WAS to put on the reportorial walking shoes and get some week-before-Christmas sentiments and outlook. As we started west along 14th Street, here seemed little Christmas bubble in the air. There were no sidewalk Santa Clauses or tinkling bells no window displays, not much in the way of crowds carrying bundles. Ohrbachs has moved, there are bleak empty For Rent signs where Hearns once teemed this time of year and downtown a bit Wanamakers is no more. It is a bypassed shopping area. In a Woolworth store a sales person said "slower than last year."

Uptown in the 20's, a retail and wholesale outlet house reported that "everyone is crying around here." It seems the pinch of the steady move to the suburbs of both affluent customers and shopping areas is suddenly adding up. "We're busy, mind you," was the admonition. "It's not dead, but it's not the big thing it was." For small businesses, this has to be the period to make up for all the year's slack, and to do that it has to be not busy, but frantic, unbelievable.

Another small businessman got

into the conversation, agreed it was slow, but said he expected to be busy early January. "Money is tighter than it was," he said, "But after some of the Christmas bonuses I look for a

rush."

IN A WESTERN UNION office, I was informed that there was a sharp uptake in telegrams to out of town places in this last week. "You'd never realize how

many New Yorkers didn't come from New York but have family all over the country," I was told. I asked about the Christmas greeting forms, with suggested verses. Do most make up their

own, or use the forms?

"The forms," was the answer, "with some exceptions. You'd be surprised, just a while ago someone came in, he must have I don't know how much money, he just said send one of the nice poems."

I looked at the poems. They are no threat to Walt Whitman. Here is one: "When you gather round the Christmas tree, read this message and think of me. Love." The word "love" can be added to any form for only a few cents, you are advised.

Moving up Chelsea's West Side, I chatted with a few housewives coming out of stores with bundles. In the pleasant glow that seems to go with buying presents, they didn't seem to believe that a reporter just casually passing by was seriously interested in how things were going for them, this Christmas, better or worse, and the best I can report for my efforts were the pleasantly bantering "Sure, we could always use some money for Christmas, you giving out an?" and "Give us a good write-up, I spent over \$12 today."

Passing the main postoffice, I noticed a group of several hun-

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Ebenezer Scrooge, Publisher

By JOSEPH NORTH

WHEN the Woman's Home Companion and Collier's went down last week the fall should have roared through the land like giant

pinetrees that top in a forest. These magazines had enormous circulations—over four million each. They had a history, the Companion was established in 1873, and Collier's, which was established in 1888, once enjoyed the regular writings and editings in its pages of such literary stalwarts as Finley Peter Dunne (Mr. Dooley), Ring Lardner, H. G. Wells, Rudyard Kipling, Mark Twain and Norman Hapgood.

Both had authority, history and readers—everything but enough of the dollars that advertising brings. We are told both lost \$7,500,000 this past year. Paul C. Smith, president and chairman of Crowell-Collier, parent firm of the two, said cryptically the losses were due to rising costs and falling revenue.

Mr. Smith said the disappearance of these two publications will "affect" over 2,400 employees. But he did not have the courage to spell that out. Theodore H. White, senior writer for Collier's, and spokesman for the committee, did: these men and women who worked without ben-

efit of a trade union will lose their jobs without a cent of severance pay, old age pensions, anything that would keep them a step ahead of the poorhouse. Some worked here 30 years; an elderly switchboard operator, half a century.

It is brutal, too, that the Board of Directors refused to lift a finger to help the employees buy the magazines. "We were told," White reports, "that we have to raise \$2 million within a day if we wanted to save the magazines." He intimated that if he were given time, the minimal offering the publishers granted under the cruel circumstances, the employees could have raised the appropriate sum. Even that dispensation was denied them.

SO, ON THE EVE of Merry Christmas when the publishers devote considerable space and time to declare their adherence to the Christly creed (when the carols are sounding on the radio) these veteran employees face bleak times.

I wonder how J. Patrick Lannan, the Chicago financier who moved in last week as a director and chairman of the publishing firm, will enjoy the egg-nog of Yule as he contemplates, (which he may, who knows?) his Scrooge-like decision to turn these old and faithful workers out into the cold. (It was his decision to chop the giant pines down.) Even medieval old King Wenceslas called for his page to locate the poor and feed them Christmas gruel. Lannan went no further than to



promise a "job-placement bureau" on the premises.

And Smith, once known as the boy-wonder when he edited the San Francisco News Chronicle in his late twenties, and who has grown up to be the president of the Crowell-Collier firm, said piously, "The stockholders of our company number more than 7,000, and it is the primary duty of their board and chief executive officer to protect their investment."

SO WE SEE, even at Christ-

mas time, the dominant ethic that reigns over the capitalist order of society: Protect your investment, and let men starve as they may.

There is perhaps another fact to this journalistic phenomenon. How is it that two periodicals of circulations surpassing four and a quarter million each, couldn't make ends meet? The number of readers would indicate some considerable degree of loyalty and affection for the periodicals.

Personally, I have little brief for Collier's editorial policy which, I feel, has slid downhill for some years, hitting a low and dismal point when it devoted an issue virtually to exhorting a war between the USA and USSR, and gloated that "Guys and Dolls" would be playing the boards in the Moscow Bolshoi theatre after we got through with benighted Russkies. Down

with Ulyanova, out with Oistrakh, death to Chekhov, Pushkin and Gorky. Generally speaking, this represented the current thinking of Collier's, whose editorials were written by Reuben Maury, the genius who writes the editorials on the Daily News. It was a long bleak stretch backward from Maury to Peter Finley Dunne and his sagacious, and humane bartender Mr. Dooley

WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION, on the other hand, was different. I had taken to reading it the past few years, as I understand, many another husband did. Its frank and honest discourses on many social and personal questions of the day impressed me. The magazine was established 83 years back as the Home Companion; and some of our senior readers may remember Gertrude B. Lane, its most famous editor who held the post from 1912 until she died in 1941. Under her guidance the publication grew from 788,000 to more than 3,600,000.

One can well reflect upon the sorry state of journalistic affairs; once upon a time our nation had over 3,000 daily newspapers. Today the number has shrunk to 1,800. This past year three vast periodicals, the American Magazine, Collier's and Woman's Home Companion are gone from the news-stands. And so even the stage for a diversity of viewpoint has shrunk. As we have abundantly heard in the midst of recent political campaigns, American has virtually become a country of a one-party press.

I do not, in conclusion, wish to grind a personal axe, but the fate of these giants of circulation should help our readers understand the burdens a paper like ours shoulders. If periodicals with four million readers cannot make a go of it in this dog-eat-dog economic setup, it is little less than a miracle that our paper can continue to appear.

Could it be that our simple devotion to the principle of peace on earth, good will to men is mightier than the millions of dollars that crossed the palms of Crowell-Collier's?

AFL-CIO Sees Jan. 3 Crucial on Rights

By ABNER W. BERRY

DESPITE the Democratic platform pledge on civil rights legislation and the almost unanimous agreement that such legislation is impossible unless Senate filibusters can be curbed, the effort against the filibuster is still supported by only 12 U. S. Senators. The AFL-CIO News, noting that there are only four Republicans—Thomas Kuchel (Calif.), Clifford Case (N.J.), Irving Ives (N.Y.) and Edward J. Thyne (Minn)—declaring for the rule change, declared editorially:

"This year 46 or 47 Republicans will attend the Jan. 3 (1957) session. If the Administration wants civil rights legislation, then these Republicans can quickly demonstrate it by voting for the anti-filibuster revision of Rule 22."

The labor paper stresses the importance of taking the issue up on Jan. 3, when a majority can cut off debate, rather than dallying until later when the old rule will permit a filibuster against which no closure steps can be taken.

Southern Democrats, the AFL-CIO News predicts, will continue to fight for the right to filibuster while northern and western Democrats will vote to change the rule, adding:

"The absolute balance of power will be held by the Republicans."

A CHORUS OF DEMANDS from a variety of organizations joined that of the AFL-CIO News:

• The NAACP national office sent a letter to its branches in 25 states urging visits to U.S. Senators on the issue.

• Negro Ministers formed a National Ministers' Civil Rights Conference to meet in Washington on Jan. 3 to press for action against filibusters, protest the withdrawal

of seniority and patronage privileges from Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-NY), and to request desegregation enforcement by President Eisenhower and Attorney General Herbert Brownell.

• The American Civil Liberties Union made the fight against the filibuster a part of its program to give support to southerners in their legal fight against segregation.

• In New York, the Liberal Party announced a campaign to collect 300,000 signatures on a petition calling for senatorial action against filibusters.

• The American Jewish Committee asked Congress to abolish filibusters, warning that passage of civil rights legislation would continue to be "extremely remote" unless the senate rules are changed.

BUT, WHILE THE DEMANDS for change mounted, Senate liberals became more timorous, as if caught between the cross-fire of the people's wants and the power still wielded by the Congressional Dixiecrats. On the Republican side there is the comfortable coalition in the Senate with the Dixiecrats that an all-out civil rights fight would impair.

The veteran legislative representative of the NAACP, Clarence Mitchell, writing in the current Baltimore Afro-American points out:

"The real Democratic leadership in the Senate rests somewhere between Richard Russell, where the platformed them to believe

gia, and Harry F. Byrd of Virginia."

It was Russell who led the Dixiecrat bloc into the GOP-Dixiecrat alliance in 1949.

Northern Democrats are under pressure from the nominal majority leader Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas, Mitchell to "see things through Russell - colored glasses" if they are to get committee appointments and consideration of their pet bills.

"It is difficult to know what is gained by having Sen. Johnson act as a kind of front man for the arch foes of civil rights," Mitchell writes. "Democrats who must depend on their civil rights record to get re-elected should demand an opportunity to select another majority leader. Unless they do, they must accept responsibility for the present condition which permits Russell et al. to run things by remote control."

Mitchell's explanation for the slowness of liberal senators was reflected by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in a somewhat pessimistic tone. The League commented last Saturday:

"Until a bi-partisan liberal bloc committed to civil rights wins a comfortable majority in the Senate and House, the chances of a major breakthrough on civil rights will be slim indeed."

Meantime the voters are proceeding on the basis of the fact that they were electing such a liberal majority. For isn't that what the platformed them to believe?

N.Y. Auto Show Didn't Tell the Detroit Story

DETROIT.—Though the Automobile Manufacturers Association is reported to have spent \$11½ million to launch the 1957 cars at the National Auto Show in New York last week, it did not tell the entire truth about the automotive industry.

This was left unsaid:

1. Unemployment in Michigan, primarily among auto workers, has grown from 83,000 last year to 140,000 this year.

2. Although Harlow Curtice, of General Motors, Henry Ford II, and other tycoons predict a 6½ million new car season, a survey by a national magazine, Colliers, predicts it will be a 5½ million season. That would mean at least a 9½ month layoff for 5-10 year seniority people.

The big auto show at the New York Coliseum did not—amidst the soft lights, heavenly music and Madison Avenue halleluia—quote a single word of Walter Reuther, UAW head. He said that the price boosts this year—as high as \$600 a car—will mean 100,000 jobs less. A million Americans less will buy, Reuther said, because they are unable to meet the price or the payments.

Further, omitted from the Coliseum jubilee was the fact that GM's Fisher, Chrysler, Highland Park, Dodge Main, and at least a dozen other plants are taking strike votes.

The hard fact is that a wild production battle rage among the three remaining giants of the industry: GM, Ford, Chrysler. Each is trying to crack all past records

tion records even if it breaks the backs of the workers in the process.

HIGH ON THE FINTAILS of the 1957 model rides not only speedup, but automation. Both are now the bane of the auto workers' lives.

Automation has taken a heavy toll of jobs as have runaway shops and plants built at government expense or with fast tax writeoff agreements made with the Cadillac Cabinet members. All this is done in the name of "meet competition" and reduce costs.

The Big Three are bypassing the bare elementary health and safety standards to get production. More workers are being injured, ruptured, lacerated, burned, the Workmen's Compensation Commission says. The death rate has crept up too. This is why strike votes are piling up.

In a UAW poll 85 percent favored the 30 hour week with 40 hours pay. These workers see what's happening behind the chrome and the fintails. After all, Ford made \$145,200,000 profits after taxes the first nine months of 1956, and GM \$639,585,399, while the layoffs among workers got longer, speedup increased: profits continue to mount to an all-time high.

Hence the 30 hour week for 40 hour pay is the overwhelming choice, simultaneously the workers indicate they want wage increases, more pension money, better health and medical care.

You didn't hear any of this at the Coliseum last week.

KEYSTONE LABOR

Labor's Enemies Could Not, and Cannot Destroy UMW, Declares Lewis

NOTE: Because there are so many coal miners in Pennsylvania and so many of their most heroic struggles took place in this state, we are reprinting the following extract from the address of president John L. Lewis at the late Cincinnati convention of the UMW. (From the December 1, 1956, United Mine Workers Journal).

For decades many of the coal operators of this country continued to look forward in the hope and the belief that in some way this union might be destroyed; so that they might prosper by reducing wages and debasing labor rather than tax their brains with the problem of recognizing the rights of the mine workers and the paying that wage which is required and necessary to maintain the family and home of a mine worker in accordance with our modern concepts and standards.

All of us can recall that in some sections of the industry our local unions were decimated and destroyed by all the barbarous methods used by those in opposition to collective bargaining and the rights of free men. We can remember the base level to which those wages were reduced, the basis of mere animal subsistence and the weariness and the fatigue and the exhaustion and the illnesses that came from long hours, in poorly ventilated mines under the most adverse conditions.

I recall when the basic agreement of the industry was extended to take in the mines of District No. 20, Alabama. There are men here today from Alabama who can recall that the wages in the mines of the Tennessee Coal and Iron



Company and other companies were so low as 90 cents a day for a 15-hour day. Our people can recall the clean-up system, where the length of the day was only determined by the amount of time that it took to clean up the loose coal in the mines. And 15 hours a day was more the rule in some areas than the exception.

That was the manner in which the operators of that day believed that they could reach the ultimate goal of prosperity in the American mining industry, and they spent millions of treasure and years of effort to attack and undermine and weaken and destroy this organization and starve its membership into submission.

We can even remember the decision of the Supreme Court in the State of West Virginia, which held that the company occupancy of a domicile owned by a coal company

was conditioned upon the employment of that individual by the coal company and that when the employment relationship ceased, the ordinary landlord and tenant laws ceased to apply and the armed guards of the coal company could enter the homes of the mine workers and throw their families and their household goods out on the street; and when they had done that our people were guilty of trespassing on the private land of the coal company and could be thrown off the property. It was done on a broad scale. It was done by our best families in the mining industry, the great combinations of capital that existed at that time. They used their colossal wealth and influence to degrade human beings because they believe it was profitable to do so.

'WHEN WE HAD NO FRIENDS'
That time has changed, and it was only changed by the increasing efforts of this union on behalf of its members, in times of stress and trial, sometimes covering a period of years, such as in the '40s, when we had no friends in high places in this country, when everyone was against us except our own people. . . .

Have you forgotten? Three times I can recall when the President of the United States wasn't having his orders accepted by the United Mine Workers of America, that the Congress of the United States, in full session, and by unanimous vote in both Houses—the House of Representatives and the Senate—adopted a joint resolution pledging the Chief Executive of the nation the use of the Army and Navy and the Treasury of the United States to beat the Mine Workers into submission. Three times that has happened within my memory.

That meant that the Congress, representing all the people of the United States, was willing to use all the powers inherent in this Republic—and they are vast—to stop you and your associate members from getting fair wages, decent living conditions and the right to work in a coal mine where you would have a reasonable chance to come home at night to your families. And just so you will all know, I will say that that vote was unanimous each time. Every Republican voted for it, every Democrat voted for it, every Farm-Labor party member voted for it, and every Socialist member of Congress voted for it. They were just unanimous.

Despite the outcries and their pledges of sympathy and support, they rode with the popular storm of opposition and they voted "aye" to destroy you. Don't forget it can happen again, and don't be beguiled into the belief that the salvation of this Union and the future well-being of your family lies in the hands of the politicians of this country. It lies in the collective strength which you are members.

TRI-STATE CONFERENCE ON ON MIGRATORY WORKERS URGED

PHILADELPHIA—Governor Averill Harriman of New York has been urged to convene a regional migratory labor conference involving that state, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

The proposal was made by Herbert Hill, NAACP labor secretary of the National Guild Labor Committee, during their appearance on the New York radio program, "Reports from the Labor Front." The program was broadcast over the facilities of Station WEVD.

In a joint statement, the speakers declared that recent investigations "have shown that flagrant abuses involving child labor, lack of adequate housing and miserable working conditions still characterize the lot of southern Negroes along the Atlantic coast migrant labor stream."

"The states of New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey are now in competition in seeking the vitally necessary supply of migrant labor for harvesting and food processing operations," the statement continued. "A serious problem is created by the lack of uniform statutes and standards among the three states."

"A great contribution towards eliminating many difficulties experienced by migrant laborers would be the creation of uniform regulations for living and working conditions and joint enforcement procedures of state laws," the statement concluded.

NAACP ELECTIONS

DR. HARRY J. GREENE, national board member and one time state president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People last week was reelected head of the Philadelphia Branch of the association by a vote of 3 to one for his seventh consecutive term.

The balloting was held at the Branch headquarters, 260 S. 15th St.

In the fight for the first vice-presidency, George B. Morris won over Dr. Carleton P. Richards. Other top office workers include Thomas E. Little, 2nd vice president; Dorothy Burton, secretary; Lucille P. Blöndin, assistant secretary, and Stanley Shotz, treasurer.

Among the members of the Executive Committee a number of "new faces" appeared: Leonidas A. Allen, James T. Earle, Fortuné F. Harris, Urias Oates, Sarah S. Scott, C. W. Maxwell, Gertrude Skidmore, Milton Washington, Harold Benton, Betty-Smith Marshall, Bertram Leavy, Sonora Mae Gratton, Samuel Hall, Dr. William H. Gray, Jr.

Incumbent committee members returned to office were: Viola P. Allen, E. Washington Rhodes, Esq., Dr. Eugene Waymon Jones, Rosa L. Pitts, Reba O. Bowie, Rev. Leonard G. Carr, Mabel Turner, John Welsh, Gladys L. Thomas, John T. Smith, A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr., Esq., Couchita Nakatani and Ernest H. Fleming.

Atomic Scientist Says War Unlikely

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The startling successes in the development of atomic energy have made war between the U. S. and the Soviet Union "unfeasible," declared Dr. John Turkevich, chemistry professor at Princeton University and consultant to the Atomic Energy Commission, in an address here at the annual dinner meeting of the Princeton Alumni Association of Central Pennsylvania at Van's Colonial Restaurant.

Dr. Turkevich pointed out that until about 20 years ago the world was using up its oil and coal resources so fast that it would face a fuel crisis "in the not too distant future as the population continued to increase."

"Now," he stressed in contrast, "we are suddenly living in an age when nuclear energy stored for four billion years has been released for mankind. The result has been the creation of such awesome weapons that atomic warfare between any two countries has become unfeasible."

The battle between the U. S. and the Soviet Union will in the future, he concluded, be in the economic, political and spiritual areas. "The philosophy of destruction has become unthinkable."

Dr. Horace Scott, Negro Republican Candidate In 4th Cong. Dist. Ran 8,496 Ahead of Ticket

LAST Nov. 6 when the voters of the 4th Congressional District went to the polls they indicated by their vote that there is a strong feeling for "A Negro to Congress" from Philadelphia.

Dr. Horace Scott, long-time Republican and a charter member of the Republican Assembly (group that sponsored W. Thacher Longstreth in the last mayoralty campaign) polled 33,146 votes against the vote-getting Democratic incumbent—Earl Chudoff—who got 42,518.

The Eisenhower vote was 24,654 while James Duff, running for reelection as U. S. Senator, received 32,265.

Adlai Stevenson and Senator-elect Joseph Clark carried the district by 49,221 and 54,190 respectively.

ing leadership in the metal manufacturing industries, has issued leaflets one of which said that the IAM has "Communists on their payroll . . ." and exhorted the workers, "Don't pay wages to America's enemies with your dues dollars."

The IAM is asking \$500,000 damages; Hayes and Eric Peterson, the secretary-treasurer, are demanding \$225,000 each, with the suit directed at the IUE and three of its organizers—O. H. Buffalo area—Clifford Haley, Howard Robinson and Jack Stevens.

WHAT'S ON

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, Dec. 22, at the Cultural Hall, 1140 N. 4th St.—Third Annual Christmas-Chanukah children's party sponsored by the Friends and Families of the Philadelphia Smith Institute. Admission free.

Bell Telephone Rate Hike

(Continued from Page 16)
lowed despite plenty of evidence that the company is anything but poverty-stricken. In the present case the Bell System reported that its earnings for the 12 months ending Aug. 31, this year, were \$13.37 per share, compared to \$12.68 for the same period of last year, while the earnings for the last quarter (July-September) were 14 percent more than those for 1955.

EVEN the Philadelphia Bulletin, devoted though it is to the "People's Capitalism" which the Bell System embodies, felt obliged to reprove the corporation for its grasping avarice. "Phone users," declared that paper editorially, "generally may find it hard to understand the company's asserted need for more revenue when earnings seem to be coming along nicely—five percent higher than last year's at the old rates. Some may wonder whether any increase at all was justified, remembering that there were increases in 1949 and 1952 which, collectively, cost Pennsylvania phone users near \$40,000,000 every year."

"Hardest of all to understand," the Bulletin stressed, "is the rate-fixing technique, a job for experts in valuation."

However, after one has listened at the public hearings to the corporation experts rolling off reams of statistics to prove what they are paid to prove—that the

company will go out of business unless higher rates are permitted—he is less inclined to place such a high evaluation on the "experts."

OR, PERHAPS, it would be more correct to say that the observer would be inclined to place greater emphasis on the experts for the opponents of the rate hikes, who, at least, represent the public versus private interests.

It did not take long for the attorneys representing the PUC itself, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and other Pennsylvania cities to pick big holes in the testimony and arguments of the Bell people. PUC counsel John E. Fullerton pointed out that the corporation had "padded" its valuation "by as much as \$90,000,000 by not including obsolescence, inadequacy and lack of utility in the allowance for depreciation of its properties." This was contrary to the PUC's established policies and to recent rulings of the Pennsylvania Superior and U. S. Supreme Courts, he emphasized.

By this finagling of accounts he said the company was getting from \$1,500,000 to \$4,500,000 in yearly income to which it was not entitled. He charged that this policy in the present case is "very deliberate, very calculated and they have been very successful with it in the past. . . . It's time it was stopped!"

Nevertheless, the PUC examiner would not agree to stop it.

MILL WORKERS

(Continued from Page 16)
worker and community against community. It's a one-sided kind of bargaining.

A boss who has no concern for the welfare of the community can very well say, "Give me what I want or I will pick up and move elsewhere." Sometimes this is a bluff, but not always. By creating a fear of unemployment, an employer can easily get public opinion on his side. No community wants to become a ghost town.

We get the feeling, too, that "tight money," high interest rates, curtailed expansion, and threats to move are all part of the vast scheme to "put workers in their place" and permit an employer to dictate terms.

Boyerstown schools are embarking upon a new course of action that should get very sober and serious consideration. Many a community has been stung by going overboard for a benevolent employer whose concern for the community was confined to asking for handouts.

MACHINIST UNION SUES IUE ON CHARGE OF LIBEL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The International Association of Machinists has filed a million-dollar libel suit against the International Union of Electric Workers, also an AFL-CIO affiliate, for leaflets charging the IAM has "Communists" on its payroll.

At the same time the IAM, following an "investigation," announced dismissal or rejection of membership applications of 10 who were formerly on the staff of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers (independent) who came over to the IAM with their

districts in Upper New York, Indiana and Ohio.

There were 10 dismissals and nine membership rejections—some of them overlapping—on the ground that each "advocates or encourages Communism."

Al Hayes, president of the IAM, named a fact-finding committee last September, when charges were made from IUE and other AFL-CIO leading persons that the IAM had put Communists, former UE organizers, on its payroll.

Meanwhile the IUE, in bitter rivalry with the IAM for bargain-

Reminding you of the Christmas Chanukah Party, Saturday, Dec. 22, at 1:30 p.m., at the Cultural Hall, 1140 N. 4th St. Admission free.

Baptist Ministers Call Civil Rights Conference to Put An End to Filibusters in the U. S. Senate

Jewish Group Urges Repeal of Senate Rule 22

PHILADELPHIA. — The Jewish Community Relations Council, which represents the various Jewish groups in this area, has, through the chairman of its Committee on Civil Liberties—Murray H. Shusterman—thrown its support to the proposal of a number of U. S. Senators to amend Senate Rule 22 so that a majority vote of the Senate could close debate.

The Rule requires two-thirds (64) of the entire membership to stop a filibuster under which, as the Washington staff of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette has pointed out: "Practically, it is almost impossible to get 64 votes on any controversial issue. Civil rights legislation has foundered on this cloture rule in the past Congresses."

Although the Democratic Party national election program called for a change in this Rule, that party's official leadership in the Senate is bitterly opposed.

LETTERS to the editor favoring this change in the Rule have appeared in both the Philadelphia Daily News and The Bulletin.

"The amendment to the Rule," a letter to the Bulletin points out, "would end the filibuster by which Dixiecrat Senators have been able to block all legislation that would enforce the right of all Americans to an equal voice in the selection of their President and other representatives."

"Aside from the long-continued wrong done millions of our fellow-Negro citizens in the South (and many whites there also) by refusing them the status of first-class citizens, this anomalous situation makes us hypocrites to the majority of the people of the world, who are of a darker skin coloration than we."

Only 10 Days

Left in Which to

Write your Senators—Joseph S. Clark and Edward Martin, Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C., to end Rule 22.

"Free" Rides for PTC Patrons?

Phila. Stock Broker Advertises Way to Get Year's Transportation Without \$

By JAMES DOLSEN

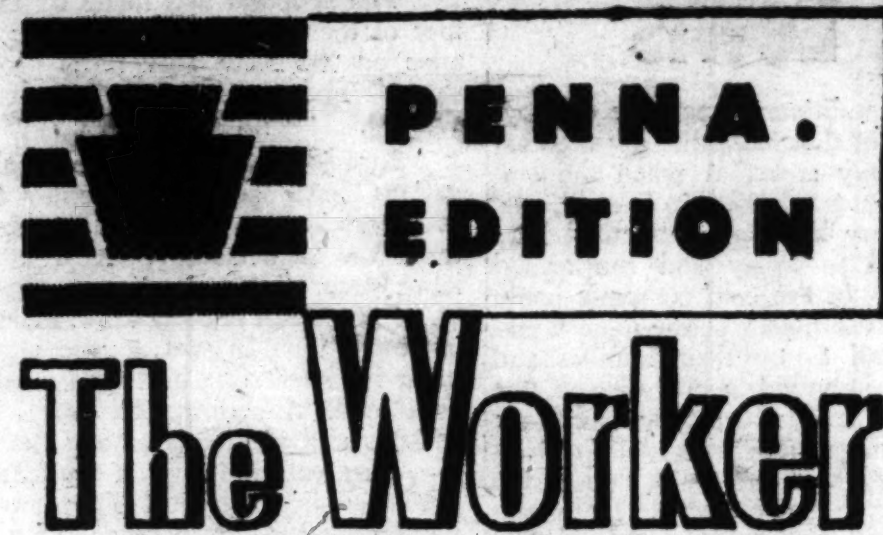
PHILADELPHIA. — A local stockbroker — the Joseph L. O'Brien Co.—has figured out a way by which riders of the PTC can get FREE transportation daily to their jobs and back home every year, besides a nice little fund for Christmas gifts for their children at each year's end.

Sounds like a pipe dream, you say? You must be a confirmed pessimist, a product of riding PTC cars and buses over the past quarter century!

Here's the proof—and if you don't want to take our word for it, look up the Philadelphia Inquirer of Dec. 12.

UNDER the heading "What is the TRUE VALUE of Philadelphia Transportation Co. Common Stock?" the O'Brien firm ran a half-column ad, pointing out that any rider of the PTC could accomplish the miracle we are talking about.

All you have to do is to have



THE WORKER, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1956

Address all correspondence to
ROBERT KLONSKY, Editor and Circulation Manager
P.O. Box 4517, Philadelphia, 31, Pa.

Labor Blasts School Training Of Mill Workers as a 'Handout'

READING, Pa.—Announcement by a school district in the southwestern part of Berks County that it has instituted a training course for high school students as "loopers" for a Boyertown hosiery mill is blasted as an unjustified "handout" for the employers in an editorial by THE NEW ERA, official organ of the labor movement here.

The editorial, which discusses a number of considerations important to Labor in this general connection, follows:

Ostensibly, the reason for establishing this tax-supported course of instruction is to alleviate a shortage of trained help. The owner of the mill has employed the time-worn device of threatening to move the plant elsewhere unless the community comes to his rescue.

This is the common cry among industry any time it desires to wring a concession from a community which is economically at the mercy of the mill-owner. It is an unfair, below-the-belt technique because workers naturally want to sustain their jobs, especially in a town where most families have lived for a long time and probably own their homes.

Yet, we can ask why the industry isn't training people for the job of looping. And if a hosiery mill can insist that a community set up a training program, what is there to prevent every other industry in Boyertown from asking for similar assistance?

And equally important, will the high school students enrolled in the "looping" course actually produce merchandise on which the manufacturer can make a profit? Will the pupils get prevailing wages? Or will the manufacturer get cheap labor at taxpayers' expense?

These, of course, are immediate questions. However, there also are many long range thoughts worthy of consideration.

FOR years we have been saying that there are some reactionary elements in this country who want a "float of unemployment." They want workers fighting workers for a limited number of jobs. Obviously, when jobs are scarce, the manufacturer can pit worker against

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Conference Will Fight Denial of Seniority Rights to Cong. Powell

PHILADELPHIA. — A two-day "Ministers National Civil Rights Conference" to avert a filibuster against civil rights legislation and to support Congressman Adam Clayton Powell—who is also a clergyman—in retaining his seniority rights in Congress, will be convened in Washington, D. C., by the Baptist Ministers Conference of Greater New York, together with the Empire Baptist Convention, on Jan. 2 and 3 of the New Year.

On Jan. 3, the ministers will lead a delegation of church members and the general public, riding a special train originating in Boston, Mass. The train will pick up delegations at New Haven, Conn.; Newark, N. J.; Wilmington, Del.; Philadelphia and Baltimore and will be joined in Washington by other delegations from throughout the nation.

Arriving in Washington on the day that Congress opens, this group will concentrate on visiting their Congressmen and Senators on Capitol Hill. That night, a mammoth Civil Rights Rally will be held.

The first group of ministers will arrive in Washington on Jan. 2, the day when Democratic leaders of Congress will be meeting to make committee assignments. They will split into three groups and call upon Paul Butler, chairman of the Democratic National Committee; House Speaker, Sam Rayburn; Rep. Jere Cooper, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee; and Rep. John McCormack, House Majority leader.

In Philadelphia a young Negro attorney—Cecil Moore—announced a "March on Washington" by a number of "irate" Republicans and a few Democrats at the same time to get Powell "off the hook."

In a statement to the press Moore is quoted as saying: "We are not going to be satisfied with merely getting the hook out of Powell's back, but we're probing into the background of Congressman Shepard of San Bernardino, Calif., one of Powell's antagonists."

"He was born in Mobile, Ala., you know," Moore added. Congressman Shepard joined with Congressmen Walter of Pennsylvania and Celler of New York in seeking to deprive Powell of patronage rights and were instrumental in having two of Powell's Washington aides fired.

"We're going after the Senate Cloture Rule 22, too," Moore declared. "All such matters must be reckoned with. The filibuster as used by those Southern legislators is stomping out democracy."

The conference is assuming a mass character.

Pa. Bell Co. Hands Out Xmas Lemon

By LAWRENCE JOHNSON

HARRISBURG, Pa. — Pennsylvanians will have reason to remember the day after Christmas this year, for they will then be faced with a statewide hike in their telephone bills. The increase will come to about a third, with the threat by the Bell system that it is coming back for more early next year.

Once a luxury, a phone has become a necessity to most workers, as is shown by the fact that there are over two million subscribers in the state. Approval by the Public Utility Commission of this hike thus strikes directly at almost every home in Pennsylvania.

The Pennsylvania Bell Telephone Co. is one of 19 such state or area-wide companies in the U. S. which are part of the huge Bell System, that in turn is owned by the American Telephone and Telegraph Co., the biggest corporation in the world. The system valued its properties in 1955 at \$14,500,000,000. This is equivalent to the pay at \$5,000 a year of 2,900,000 workers in our "people's capitalism!"

SINCE the company has almost a complete monopoly of telephone service in this country, it has been making money hand over foot. Its affiliate companies, including the Bell System in this state, is constantly grabbing for more profits.

In 1949 the Pennsylvania company was authorized to raise rates by \$18,000,000. Three years later it got another hike of \$21,000,000. And now, after another three years, comes this \$13,500,000 increase. In each case the corporation asked much more, this present raise being only a third of what it demanded.

These increases have been all (Continued on Page 15)

Resume Merger Negotiations of AFL-CIO in Pa.

HARRISBURG. — Warned by George Meany, national head of the AFL-CIO, that the merger of all AFL and CIO councils on state and local levels must be completed by the end of next November, the special merger committee of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor and the State CIO Industrial Union Council at a meeting here have resumed their discussions.

AFL president Joseph McDonough and CIO president Harry Boyer expressed confidence the deadline would be met. It was pointed out that the 1,500,000 in the combined AFL and CIO in Pennsylvania represents about one-tenth of the total membership of those two groups in the U. S.

The State AFL Council approved the establishment of a new department which will help establish central labor bodies in localities where none exist now and will aid in the expansion of their activities.

MCDONOUGH and Earl C. Bohr, AFL secretary-treasurer, assured the representatives of the central bodies gathered together from all over the state that the new department will not "in any way . . . diminish the prerogative and identity of the individual central bodies."

These councils, they pointed out, are important as spokesmen for the labor movement in "creating favorable attitudes in the community toward unions in general . . . and in effectively dealing with economic, political and social problems on the local level."

Delegates representing union councils in 28 cities participated in the discussion. State secretary-treasurer Earl C. Bohr reported a total of 41 CIO Labor Unions and 1,475 AFL locals in the state.

Third Annual CHRISTMAS-CHANUKAH Children's Party

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, DEC. 22

Cultural Hall - 1140 N. 4th St.

Co. ad doesn't mention this "fly in the ointment."

However, to get back to free rides plus a bonus at the year end on the PTC:—\$1.29 yearly dividends on 100 shares would bring you \$120 by each New Year. The year's supply of tokens would cost \$93.60, based on your working a five-day week and every week during the year.

Evidently the brokerage firm forgot that many workers now get a yearly vacation. Assuming you are one of these lucky individuals and that yours is for two weeks, this would swell your Christmas kitty by not having to buy tokens for 10 work days. This would add \$1.80 to the kitty.

"IN our opinion," the O'Brien outfit concludes in their ad, "the management of the PTC is doing a fine job."

Much as we have written about the PTC in the past, we must admit the thought had never occurred to us that the company was really a charitable enterprise bent on distributing its benefits free of charge to its riders.

Of course, there is that little matter of having the thousand dollars in cash on hand . . .